



Date: 25/02/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016281/O

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016281/O

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

To know the number of arrests made, by local authority area, in each of the last three years (2023, 2024 and 2025) for offences related to the illegal use of off-road bikes.

If possible, please could you break these down by specific offence?

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. There is no specific legislation covering "off road bikes". To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of all arrests relating to "mechanically propelled vehicles" to see which relate to off road bikes. To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add

to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk