

Date: 06/03/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016493/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016493/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please treat this as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am researching recorded "school break-ins" over the past five years.

Definition

For the purpose of this request, please interpret "school break-ins" as:

Recorded burglary or attempted burglary offences (business and community / non-residential burglary) where the recorded premises or location type is a school or educational establishment (including primary, secondary, and sixth-form/FE colleges where identifiable).

If your recording system uses alternative location classifications, please use the closest equivalent and briefly explain how this maps to the definition above.

Time period

***Please provide data for the last five complete calendar years:
2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 (inclusive).***

If only available by financial year, please provide the closest five-year period and specify which period has been used.

Requested information (CSV/XLSX format preferred)

For each year in scope, please provide:

1. Recorded offences

- **Total number of recorded offences matching the definition above within your force area.**

In addition, where held in a structured format:

- **Number of completed burglaries**
- **Number of attempted burglaries (or nearest equivalent classification)**

2. Geographic area (structured fields only)

For each offence (or aggregated annually if preferred), please provide the structured geographic field(s) already held in your crime recording system, such as:

- **Local authority area**
- **Postcode outward code (e.g., "OX1")**

I understand that full addresses or full postcodes may engage personal data exemptions; I am only requesting structured geographic identifiers held in your system that can be disclosed.

If specific fields cannot be released, please specify which are held but exempt.

3. Outcomes

For the same offences, please provide the number assigned to each recorded outcome type per year (e.g., charge/summons, investigation complete – no suspect identified, evidential difficulties, etc.).

If Home Office outcome types are used, please specify the outcome categories.

4. Stolen property

Where held in structured format, please provide:

- **The categories of stolen property recorded**
- **The total number of offences per category (annual totals acceptable)**

If property value is recorded in a structured field, please also provide:

- **Total recorded estimated value of stolen property per year**
- **Number of offences with a value recorded**

Result of Searches

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

However, GMP does not hold some of the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP do not have a search field within its recorded system to allow for an easy identification and extraction of what types of property have been stolen. To comply with question 4 of this FOI, a review

manually would be needed to check each report located and see what data is recorded, if any value is stored within this record for such items as there would not be another way to locate this otherwise. Initial searches have revealed over 400 records and to review each of these at approximately 5 minutes each would take in the region of 30-35hrs.

Therefore, as per **Section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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.

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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with the removal of question 4 and/or a reduced time frame. The use of a specific HO Code may also prove useful. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.