



Date: 14/04/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016625/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016625/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I'm writing to request some information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to support a location risk assessment for a proposed children's residential home.

The home will be for children and young people with autism and learning disabilities, who may be more vulnerable to risks in the local area. As part of our safeguarding responsibilities, we need to better understand the surrounding environment.

The address being assessed is:
[REDACTED], Bolton

I'd be grateful if you could provide the following information for the most recent three years (or the latest available), ideally at postcode, ward, or nearest available level:

1. *Aggregated crime data for the area, including:*
 - *Anti-social behaviour*
 - *Violent offences (including robbery)*
 - *Sexual offences (anonymised)*
 - *Criminal damage and arson*
 - *Drug-related offences*
 - *Public order offences*
2. *A general summary of police incidents or call-outs in the area, where this is available in aggregated form.*

3. *Any known trends or patterns in the area that may be relevant to safeguarding children, such as:*
 - a. *Child criminal exploitation (CCE)*
 - b. *Child sexual exploitation (CSE)*
 - c. *County lines or drug-related activity*
 - d. *Ongoing anti-social behaviour or community issues*
4. *Any high-level or anonymised information about risks from known offenders in the area, where this can be shared lawfully.*
5. *Current local policing priorities, neighbourhood concerns, or any relevant safeguarding partnership work.*
6. *Any crime prevention initiatives or engagement work carried out locally by neighbourhood policing teams.*

I understand there are limits around sharing sensitive information, so I'm only requesting anonymised and aggregated data, with nothing that would identify individuals.

If you're not able to provide everything requested, I'd really appreciate anything you can share, or advice on how I might refine the request.

An electronic response would be preferred if possible. Please let me know if you need anything further from me.

Thanks very much for your help.

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, I am not obliged to supply you with all the information held as exemptions apply.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide such information (because this information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant, with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The information you have requested in question 3 is exempt from disclosure by virtue of **Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement**. Section 31 is a qualified and prejudice-based exemption and as such, subject to a harm and public interest test.

S31(1) - Evidence of Harm

A Freedom of Information Act request is not a private transaction. Both the request itself and any information disclosed, are considered suitable for open publication. This is because under the Act, any information disclosed is released into the wider public domain, effectively to the world, not just to an individual.

Whilst not questioning the motives of the applicant, providing any further information relating to intelligence held within Greater Manchester Police would reveal our operational capability, which would be of intelligence value to criminals.

Disclosure of intelligence relating to organised crime, such as child sexual exploitation and the supply of drugs would mean that those members of the public who are committing crimes and pose a risk to the public, would be made aware that GMP know about their criminal activity. It would allow criminals the opportunity to alter their behaviour if disclosed, causing the tactics used by GMP to become less effective and will mean that the police are not able to detect and prevent crime, apprehend, or prosecute offenders or to administer justice for the wider community.

There is always a duty of care to the general public, and the Police Service has a clear responsibility to ensure the prevention or detection of crime, and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders is always delivered. There are several tactics available to the Police Service to ensure the effective delivery of operational law enforcement. In this case, specialist policing activity is required to undertake fair investigations where it may be necessary to progress a range of reasonable lines of enquiry.

As such, the disclosure of any further information which would hinder the forces law enforcement functions cannot be in the public interest.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure for S31 - Where public funds are being spent, there is a public interest in accountability and justifying the use of public money. Disclosure of the requested information would enable the public to assess whether the force has appropriately taken steps to help reduce and detect organised crime in the Bromley Cross area. Release would enhance public debate as to whether the force is appropriately and effectively engaging with the threat posed by criminals.

Factors against disclosure for S31 - Disclosure that reveals our operational capabilities would compromise law enforcement tactics. Criminals could use the information to target areas of perceived weakness believing that their activities are less likely to be detected. It may be used by criminals who are intent on pursuing their criminal activity, to identify and exploit the limitations of these resources.

To release information relating to intelligence would have a detrimental effect on our policing capabilities. Therefore, to mitigate any risks, disclosure of this information needs to be protected, to ensure that those with intent to do so cannot manipulate it or undermine its purpose in any way.

Any disclosure of information which would compromise law enforcement tactics and thus lead to more crime being committed by reducing the opportunity for the prevention and detection of crime, would therefore increase the risk to public safety, which is not in the public interest.

Balancing Test

Law enforcement is of paramount importance, and the Police service will not disclose information if to do so would undermine its purpose and place the safety of individuals at risk. Whilst there is a public interest in the transparency of using public money in policing

appropriately and effectively engaging with the threat posed by criminals, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police investigations and operations in this area.

As much as there is public interest in knowing that policing activity is appropriate and balanced in matters of law enforcement, this will only be overridden in exceptional circumstances. Any disclosure which hinders our capability and assists criminals cannot be in the public interest.

It is for these reasons that I have determined that the balance test favours non-disclosure of the requested information.

Greater Manchester Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information you requested in question 4 as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply, by virtue of **Section 40(5)(b)(i) - Personal Information**. Giving information to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

To confirm that any information is held or not, could confirm personal data. In some circumstances confirming or denying whether information is held could itself identify a living individual and would therefore breach the principles of the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is defined by Article 4 of the GDPR and Part 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identified natural person is one who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

This use of neither confirm nor deny should not be taken as proof that such information does or does not exist

The information you have requested in question 5 is exempt under **Section 21 – Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means**. Local priorities for the Bromley Cross area are available on the [GMP website](#).

The remainder of your request is not exempt and is provided below, subject to the following **CAVEATS**

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing. The systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold.

This data contains crimes with a created date between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2025 where the community area is 'Bromley Cross and Egerton', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as non-counting fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB.

We are aware of various issues with our crime recording system affecting **committed at locations for some crimes** (see below for details). These issues mean that data for a specific location may include crimes that did not happen in that location and/or exclude crimes that did.

- Some crimes do not have a beat code, which means that they cannot be mapped to other geographies e.g. districts.

- Some crimes have an incorrect beat code, which means that they are mapped to the wrong geographies.

This data contains incidents with a created date between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2025 where the community area is 'Bromley Cross and Egerton', excluding incidents with a closing code of L10 Duplicate, L19 Error or L22 Test or training.

We are aware of issues with our command-and-control system affecting **locations for incidents** (see below for details). These issues mean that data for a specific location may include incidents that did not happen in that location and/or exclude incidents that did.

- Some incidents do not have an address because e.g. the address has been recorded in a non-standard format or as map coordinates.

Due to low numbers being returned for some crimes, some of the totals have been replaced with X, as by providing exact figures as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By replacing this data in this way, it can be provided in its entirety.

1.

Crime Latest Classification : Crime Tree Level Four	2023	2024	2025
All other theft offences	51	45	38
Bicycle theft	0	X	X
Business and community burglary	8	X	7
Criminal damage and arson offences	66	42	49
Death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving	X	0	X
Miscellaneous crimes against society	23	29	18
Other sexual offences	16	19	14
Possession of drugs	21	10	8
Possession of weapon offences	9	6	8
Public order offences	68	61	45
Rape	5	8	5
Residential burglary	31	38	20
Robbery of business property	0	X	X
Robbery of personal property	X	X	6
Shoplifting	37	39	30
Stalking and harassment	110	152	113
Theft from the person	X	X	0
Trafficking of drugs	22	12	48
Vehicle offences	81	54	38
Violence with injury	65	55	51
Violence without injury	106	119	77

2.

Incident Type	2023	2024	2025
A01 - Alarm - Arrest (THIS CODE IS USED FOR BOTH INTRUDER & HUA'S)	X	0	0
A01 - Alarm Activation - Generic opening code to cover all activations for alarms with a URN, both from ARC contact and ECHO	12	19	18
C01 - Violent / Public Order	204	227	235
C03 - Burglary	45	40	42
C04 - Robbery / Theft from Person	7	X	X
C06 - Criminal damage	34	24	13
C07 - Vehicle crime	88	56	55
C08 - Firearms offences	X	X	X
C13 - Other crime (inc. Shoplifting & Theft of pedal cycle))	121	122	119
C20 - RAPE	X	X	7
C21 - Sexual / Indecency (Not Rape)	20	23	24
CU - Crime Update	15	21	36
D01 - Antisocial Behaviour	72	46	27
D02 - ASB – Personal	0	0	11
D04 - ASB-Communications	246	166	54
D05 - ASB-DOM	107	143	120
D06 - HATE INCIDENT	X	X	0
D07 - ASB – Community	0	0	28
D96 - (D04)-ASB-Abandoned Calls	0	0	129
G11 - Lost / Found Property / Person	20	10	13
G12 - Suspicious circumstances - (Opening Code)	79	78	74
G15 - Public Safety / Welfare	284	229	167
G60 - Missing Person	79	46	62
IN - Intelligence	X	X	X
L03 - Complaints against Police	6	X	X
L18 - Wanted Persons / Bail	7	13	22
L20 - Contact Record / Message / Information	128	140	174
P01 - Police Generated or Resourced Activity - (Opening Code)	105	120	89
T01 - Transport related Offences/Incidents	145	130	130

3. Exempt under S31, see above.

4. Exempt under S40, see above.

5. Exempt under S21, see above.

6. Engagement carried out with Youth Outreach Team to tackle anti-social behaviour. We also have the Foundation 92 bus attending the Bromley Cross area every few months, allowing a space for youths to engage with youth workers and partake in activities.