

Date: 17/04/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016720/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016720/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Could you please provide data in response to the following questions:

- 1. What is the total number of recorded crimes reported to your police force involving a dog owner (or person in charge of a dog) to be dangerously out of control, injuring any person or assistance dog, for the last three calendar years, broken down by year?***
- 2. If it is electronically searchable, please additionally break the above down by dog breed. NB if it is not electronically searchable, please disregard this subquestion.***
- 3. What is the total number of specified dog bites recorded among the crimes specified in question 1, broken down by year?***
- 4. What is the total number of human fatalities as the result of the crimes outlined in question 1 (reported to your force) for the last three calendar years, broken down by year?***
- 5. How many dogs have been seized by your force under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 since February 2024?***
- 6. How many of the dogs specified in question 3 were identified as XL Bully types?***
- 7. What is the total number of dog attacks reported to your force where the victim was a postal or delivery worker on duty for the last three calendar years, broken down by year?***

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

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

GMP would be unable to provide a response without carrying out a manual review on at least question 7 of this FOI. We do not record in any central location who a dog attack was carried out against. The

review would be needed to understand if the victim was a postal/delivery worker. We have located over 6000 records that would need to be trawled through, and this would not be achievable in under 18hrs.

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.

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 a reduced timeframe. We may be able to consider a keyword search, but this would require you to provide the wordings for us to use. A reduction in the volume of required information may also assist with any revised request. However, 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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

Question 1 is exempt under **Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means**. The response to this request is available online. Please follow the link below.

[Out of control dogs | Greater Manchester Police](#)