



Date: 26/05/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016900/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016900/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15/05/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. Please can you provide me with the total number of offences recorded by police, broken down by month, from January 2019 up until April 2026. Using a key word search please could you limit these figures only to offences where the word 'cocaine' was mentioned in the crime MO or summary notes.

2. Please can you provide me with the total number of offences recorded by police, broken down by Home Office crime code and month, from January 2019 up until April 2026. Using a key word search please could you limit these figures only to offences where the word 'cocaine' was mentioned in the crime MO or summary notes.

*On accuracy, I am aware that not all offences mentioning the word cocaine will necessarily have involved cocaine. For the purposes of this request I am interested in the number of crimes of different types that mention the word in summary/MO notes. For Home Office crime codes, please see the spreadsheet here if useful!
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counting-rules-for-recorded-crime>*

I would be grateful if you could provide the information requested in a spreadsheet readable format (e.g. an attached xlsx or csv file), rather than a pdf file. For an example of the format of the response I am looking for please see the table below (I've put in random dummy data):

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, I am not obliged to supply you with all the information as an exemption applies.

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 breakdown by specific Home Office offence code you have requested is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption: **Section 40(2) – Personal Information.**

Section 40(2) represents information that identifies a living individual, to disclose this information would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is defined by Section 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means data that relates to an individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data. We have instead provided the data broken down by Crime Tree Level 4 categories.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test for such data.

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 01/01/2019 and 30/04/2026 where the crime description or crime MO description contains 'cocaine', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as 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. Please note:

- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.
- The crime description or crime MO description may contain sensitive information and should be redacted before the data is released to the requester.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.