

Date: 15th April 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016652/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016652/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 31/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide data relating to dog attacks and offences recorded under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 within the Greater Manchester Police force area for the most recent three-year period available to date.

Information Requested

For each of the last three years (or broken down monthly if available), please provide:

1. Total Incidents / Complaints

- ***The total number of incidents, complaints, or reports recorded relating to:***
 - o ***Dog attacks***
 - o ***Dogs dangerously out of control***
- ***Where possible, distinguish between:***
 - o ***Incidents involving injury to a person***
 - o ***Incidents involving injury to another animal***

2. Recorded Offences

- ***The total number of crimes recorded under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991***

3. Outcomes

- ***The number of cases resulting in:***
 - o ***Charge / summons***
 - o ***Out-of-court disposals (including cautions, community resolutions, or other disposals)***
 - o ***No further action (NFA)***

4. Enforcement Actions

- ***Number of cases where:***
 - o ***Dogs were seized***

- o *Dogs were assessed by officers or specialist units*
- o *Control measures (e.g. destruction orders, contingent destruction orders, control orders) were pursued*

5. Trends

- *Any available data showing percentage increase or decrease in dog-related incidents and offences over the requested period*

Additional Clarification

Where possible, please provide:

- *Definitions used for categorising incidents, complaints, and outcomes*
- *Any internal policy or guidance documents relating to how dog attack cases are handled, assessed, or disposed of*

Result of Searches

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

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 01/04/2023 and 31/03/2026, where the latest classification Home Office offence is 008/21 'Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog', 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.
- A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing and an outcome has not yet been applied.

Question 1, 2 and 3

Month/Year	2023	2024	2025	2026
January	-	114	109	108
February	-	102	120	94
March	-	131	128	127
April	113	123	157	-
May	174	159	172	-
June	169	157	183	-
July	126	179	155	-
August	153	155	175	-
September	134	125	127	-
October	139	147	119	-
November	119	109	105	-
December	112	119	127	-
Total	1,239	1,620	1,677	329

Outcomes	2023	2024	2025	2026
Caution - Adults	32	49	63	3

Caution - Adults Alternative Offence	-	1	-	-
Caution – Youths	1	-	-	-
Charged/Summoned	47	52	38	2
Charged/Summoned Alternative Offence	2	2	1	-
Community Resolution	30	100	219	39
Diversionary, Educational, Intervention complete. Further action not in public interest.	3	4	4	-
Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender.	97	120	103	14
Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest (Police)	7	4	9	2
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible –Case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	472	460	503	97
Missing Value	9	7	36	48
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action.	316	433	351	53
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action.	202	333	310	61
Named Suspect Identified;	21	55	40	10

Prosecution not in the public interest				
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Question 4

Year	Dogs Seized
2024	806
2025	472
2026	121

Dogs which were assessed by officers or specialist units

Over the years above 454 dogs were assessed to determine their type/breed.

Control measures

No information held. DLO do not record this information.

Question 5

GMP have provided 3 years' worth of data for you to review and compare.
