

Date: 20th April 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016709/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016709/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information: ***hope you're well. I would like to access some***

I'd be grateful if you could provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. From start of the 2025 domestic football season to 31st March 2026, please provide the total number of football related arrests linked to each of these categories:

- ***Total football related arrests***
- ***Violent disorder***
- ***Public disorder***
- ***Throwing missiles***
- ***Racist and indecent chanting***
- ***Entering the pitch***
- ***Alcohol offences***
- ***Ticket touting***
- ***Possession of offensive weapon***
- ***Possession of pyrotechnics***
- ***Entering/inside stadium in possession of Class A drugs***
- ***Criminal damage/offences against property***

2. Please break down these arrests by the following:

- a. ***The number in each category that were recorded as racially aggravated***
- b. ***The number in each category that happened inside a stadium***

3. From start of 2025 domestic football season to 31st March 2026 , provide the number of banning orders that were issued

4. Please disclose the number of reports received about online racist abuse from start of 2025 domestic football season to 31st March 2026

- 1. Abuse directed at a football club in relation to players**
- 2. Abuse directed at a footballer**

5. For each category of reports, please provide the following information:

- 1. Number of arrests**
- 2. Number of charges**

CLARIFICATION

Please can the time frame for the searches be 1st July 2025 to 31st March 2026

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.

Question 1

Offence	Total
Violent Disorder	0
Public Disorder	41
Throwing Missiles	10
Racist and indecent chanting	33
Entering the pitch	7
Alcohol Offences	10
Ticket Touting	0
Possession of offensive weapon	2
Possession of pyrotechnics	3
Entering/Inside stadium in possession of Class A drugs	47
Criminal Damage/Offences against property	2
Total Football related arrests	215

Question 2

Question 2a – Total 24

Question 2b

Offence	Total
Violent Disorder	0
Public Disorder	28
Throwing Missiles	10
Racist and indecent changing	22
Entering the pitch	7
Alcohol Offences	3
Ticket Touting	0
Possession of offensive weapons	1
Possession of pyrotechnics	2
Entering/inside stadium in possession of Class A drugs	47 (turnstiles)

Criminal Damage/Offences against property	1
Total football related arrests	162

Question 3

Total 35

Question 4 and 5

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 01/07/2025 and 31/03/2026 where the hate flags, racial hate motivator flag and online flag is 'Y', 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 a system issue affecting **migrated crimes with some crime flags**. This issue caused flags to be lost i.e. change from Yes to blank incorrectly during the migration process. The following flags are affected:

- Hate crime flag
- Online crime flag
- Race hate motivation flag

Analysis has suggested that actual hate crimes may be higher than the numbers flagged. This appears to be owing to inconsistency in the use of hate crime flags and qualifiers on the recording system. As such we would advise caution in interpreting the level of hate crime reported. We are reassured that all crimes are being recorded, but some may not be flagged as hate which may affect counts and any analysis conducted on this data.

There was a total of 191 crimes that were flagged for both racial hate and online crime. All these records were manually reviewed to determine the relevance to this request.

Question 4 – None.

Question 5 – None.