

Date: 18/05/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016754/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016754/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act, following on from the police force's response to question 9 of my previous request 01/FOI/25/015578/D:

1. Details of all racial hate crimes reported since the start of October 2023, including (where available/applicable):

- a. Date the offence was committed**
- b. Ethnicity of victim**
- c. Ethnicity of suspect/accused/perpetrator**
- d. Location of the offence (address)**
- e. Details of the offence – crime description and crime MO description**
- f. Outcome**

2. Details of all racial hate crimes reported since the start of October 2023, including (where available/applicable):

- a. Date the offence was committed**
- b. Religion of victim**
- c. Ethnicity of suspect/accused/perpetrator**
- d. Location of the offence (address)**
- e. Details of the offence – crime description and crime MO description**
- f. Outcome**

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 as an exemption applies to question 1&2e - **Details of the offence – crime description and crime MO description**

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation designed to give the public access to information held by public authorities. It exists to make the decisions of those authorities transparent and to keep the populace better informed regarding matters which affect them.

A Public Authority can refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. It is recognised that dealing with unreasonable requests can place a strain on resources and get in the way of delivering mainstream services. This is particularly relevant at this time due to the ongoing demand on GMP's FOI unit which is currently experiencing high workloads and reduced levels of staffing.

When identifying potentially vexatious requests the indicators contained within the Information Commissioner's guidance on Section 14(1) should be considered. In this case we feel the following indicator applies specifically to questions 1 & 2e of your request:

Burden on the Authority

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14(1) of FOIA a request deemed as overly burdensome does not oblige GMP to comply with a request for information.

The ICO confirms within their guidance that they consider there to be a high threshold for refusing a request on such grounds if there is a viable case in line with the below recommendations:

- 1) The requester has asked for a substantial volume of information and
- 2) The authority has real concerns about potentially exempt information, which it will be able to substantiate if asked to do so by the ICO and
- 3) Any potentially exempt information cannot easily be isolated because it is scattered throughout the requested material.

As such, ***Details of the offence – crime description and crime MO description*** is being refused due to the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure, which would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

To provide the data requested for question 2, would involve manual redactions to each piece of data in the *MO Description Text* as they do contain sensitive and personal information which could identify directly/indirectly a living human therefore Section 40(2) Personal Information will be engaged as this represents information that identifies a living individual, to disclose this information would 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.

The number of *records* between since the start of October 2023 is **35,959**. Therefore, at a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to review and redact each piece of data in the *MO Description Text*, it would take approximately 2996 hours to ascertain the data required.

For this reason, any further requests of this nature will be refused under Section 14(1) of the Act, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious do not have to be complied with.

In addition, 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.

Questions 1 and 2d are exempted from disclosure under **Section 40(2) Personal Information** – this information constitutes personal data of an identifiable living individual/s, and to disclose this information would breach the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and 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.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption with no requirement to complete a public interest test.

Please see the remaining responses.

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 hate crimes with a created date between 01/10/2023 and 26/04/2026, where the racial motivation or religion motivation flags are ticked, 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.
- Hate crimes may have more than one motivation e.g. race and religion. This means that the numbers for each motivation will add up to more than the total number of hate crimes.
- Analysis has suggested that GMP recorded hate crimes may be higher than the numbers reported. 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 may be more than one suspect attached to a crime. Suspects may be attached to more than one crime during this time period.
- Suspects have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.
- There are crimes in this response with no victim attached. These may be state based crimes (which do not need a victim), crimes where the victim has not been identified, or they may be system errors.
- We are aware of a system issue that allows more than one victim to be attached to a crime, which is incorrect as stated in the Home Office Counting Rules.

Questions 1 and 2 A

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, 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.

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

[Hate crime performance data | Greater Manchester Police](#)

Questions 1 and 2 B

2B – This information is not routinely recorded and so this could only be responded to by carrying out a manual review. This review would exceed the 18hr limits within the FOIA and therefore result in a full refusal. On this basis, this part of the request has been excluded to ensure this request can be answered in full.

Victim Ethnicity	Total
Asian - Any Other Asian Background	1951
Asian - Bangladeshi	348
Asian - Indian	760
Asian - Pakistani	3185
Black - African	2298
Black - Any Other Black Background	1095
Black - Caribbean	441
Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background	432
Mixed - White and Asian	211
Mixed - White and Black African	168
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	368
Not Provided	11862
Not Stated	461
Other - Any Other Ethnic Group	810
Other - Chinese	274
White - Any Other White Background	1072
White - British	6382
White - Irish	158

Questions 1 and 2 C

Suspect Ethnicity	Total	Association Type2
Asian - Any Other Asian Background	54	Accused
Asian - Bangladeshi	4	Accused
Asian - Indian	16	Accused
Asian - Pakistani	54	Accused
Black - African	38	Accused
Black - Any Other Black Background	31	Accused
Black - Caribbean	23	Accused
Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background	17	Accused
Mixed - White and Asian	4	Accused
Mixed - White and Black African	8	Accused
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	19	Accused

Not Provided	274	Accused
Not Stated	52	Accused
Other - Any Other Ethnic Group	10	Accused
White - Any Other White Background	25	Accused
White - British	1265	Accused
White - Irish	36	Accused

Suspect Ethnicity	Association Type2
Not Provided	Perpetrator
White - British	Perpetrator

Suspect Ethnicity	Total	Association Type2
Not Provided	2655	Suspect
White - British	4785	Suspect
Asian - Any Other Asian Background	215	Suspect
White - Irish	84	Suspect
Not Stated	123	Suspect
Black - Any Other Black Background	126	Suspect
White - Any Other White Background	128	Suspect
Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background	58	Suspect
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	70	Suspect
Asian - Pakistani	242	Suspect
Black - African	139	Suspect
Black - Caribbean	98	Suspect
Asian - Bangladeshi	51	Suspect
Asian - Indian	40	Suspect
Mixed - White and Asian	38	Suspect
Other - Any Other Ethnic Group	29	Suspect
Mixed - White and Black African	21	Suspect
Other - Chinese	3	Suspect

Questions 1 & 2 F

Outcome	Total
Caution - Adults	502
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action.	7743
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action.	6644
Charged/Summoned	4067
Named Suspect Identified; Prosecution not in the public interest	132
Community Resolution	1144
Charged/Summoned Alternative Offence	796
Missing Value	1381

Prosecution time limit expired: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit has expired.	142
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but is too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute	93
Caution - Youths Alternative Offence	5
Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest (Police)	37
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but is below the age of criminal responsibility	122
Diversionary, Educational, Intervention complete. Further action not in public interest.	232
The offender has died (all offences)	67
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.	2564
Caution - Youths	46
Caution - Adults Alternative Offence	52
Prosecution not in the public interest (CPS) (all offences)	9
Prosecution prevented – Named suspect identified but victim or key witness is dead or too ill to give evidence	3
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible –Case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	10186