

Date: 27th May 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016934/C

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/05/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Refined Request

I understand that identifying parcel thefts will require manual review, and I am content for this to be undertaken within a greatly reduced timeframe.

I would therefore be grateful if you could provide:

- The number of offences recorded under Home Office code 49/10 – Theft (not classified elsewhere)***
- For the period 1 December 2025 - 31 December 2025***
- Where the offence is identified as involving a delivered parcel or package, using any available information held in the record***

I am content for:

- the data to be obtained via manual review within the reduced dataset***
- partial data or a nil return where applicable***

I am also happy to exclude outcomes data if this would otherwise increase the time required beyond the cost limit.

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

To identify the offences which involve a delivered parcel or package would require a manual review of all offences returned under Home Office code 049/10. An initial search has been conducted which returned 363 crimes for the period of 1st December 2025 and 31st December 2025. At an estimate of 5

minutes to review each crime would take this request to in excess of 30 hours to ascertain the data required.

As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18 hours to provide the requested information.

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 and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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.

Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit.

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 fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

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 049/10 crimes with a created date between 01/12/2025 and 31/12/2025 where the crime description or crime MO description contains "parcel", "package", "delivered", "left at doorstep", or "communal area", 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 number of crimes returned under HO Code '049/10 Theft if not classified elsewhere' is 363.