Information Access Unit
Information Management and Data Directorate

Date: 26/10/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017781/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017781/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/10/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information for each calendar year from 2021 to 2025, and for 2026 to date:

1. *The number of fixed penalty notices issued by your force for misuse of an audible warning instrument (horn), contrary to Regulation 99 of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 and section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.*

2. *The number of Traffic Offence Reports, court summonses and prosecutions for the same offence.*

3. *Where held, the same figures broken down by policing district, area or local command unit.*

4. *Whether your force has conducted any operations, initiatives or targeted patrols specifically addressing horn misuse or vehicle noise during this period, and if so, their dates, location and a brief description.*

If you record this offence under a broader category and cannot isolate it, please state the category used and provide the figures for that category, noting that the horn offence is included within it.

If any part of this request would exceed the cost limit, please answer parts 1 and 2 and advise how the remaining parts could be narrowed.

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 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 information you have requested in question 3 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. Due to the low numbers and geographic breakdown being requested, 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.

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

1.

OFFENCE DESCRIPTION		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Sound a horn / bell / gong / siren fitted to a vehicle whilst stationary on a road	Fixed Penalty Notice	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Traffic Offence Report	3	6	6	7	3	8
Sound a horn / gong / bell / siren fitted to a vehicle in motion on a restricted road at night	Traffic Offence Report	2	3	2	2	4	2

2. See above for Traffic Offence reports. Prosecution information is not held by GMP. Please contact His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service for this information.

3. Exempt under S40, see above.

4. GMP do not hold any information that specific operations were conducted to target this offence. They would be dealt with proactively if an officer came across them or be encompassed in roadside operations targeting all road traffic offences.