GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

Tuesday, 22 September 2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017638/B

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017638/B**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information for section 136 Mental Health Act detentions initiated by your force between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026. Please count detention episodes, not unique people.*

*To keep the request proportionate, its scope is limited to existing aggregate reports and routinely held structured section 136 records.*
*It excludes manual examination of individual incident narratives or clinical files, and obtaining information from NHS organisations.*

1. *The total number of section 136 detention episodes.*

2. *The number by first place of safety: A&E/emergency department, mental-health/health-based place of safety other than A&E, police station, other, and unknown. Your existing recorded categories are acceptable; no cross-tabulation is requested.*

3. *Where actual section 136 detention duration is recorded, the number lasting 24 hours or more, and the number with duration unknown. Please use the recorded statutory detention clock, rather than time spent by police at the incident or hospital. If only police attendance/handover duration is held, please identify that instead of treating it as detention duration.*

4. *The number recorded as reaching 24 hours on that clock without a completed formal Mental Health Act assessment. If your existing data distinguish assessments not yet started from those started but unfinished, please provide those existing counts separately. Please identify the meaning of the assessment field used; general triage or initial clinical screening should not be treated as a formal Mental Health Act assessment.*

*For items 3 and 4, if the information is not held in these sources or would require individual case review, please say so; no such review is requested. Please distinguish a recorded zero from unavailable or missing information. Existing reports or tables are welcome, with a brief indication of their definitions and coverage where already documented.*

**Result of Searches**

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police.

1. 2053
2.

| | |
|---|---|
| Health Based Place of Safety | 281 |
| Police custody | 18 |
| A&E | 1753 |
| Private home | 0 |
| Other | 0 |
| Not known | 1 |

3. & 4. GMP do not record the S136 detention duration or completion of Mental Health Act Assessments timings. This data is collected and recorded by the 2 mental health Trusts that cover Greater Manchester.

The Trusts are: Greater Manchester Mental Health (www.gmmh.nhs.uk) and Pennine Care Foundation Trust (www.penninecare.nhs.uk). Please visit their websites for how to contact them for this information.