Information Access Unit
Information Management and Data Directorate

Date: 14/10/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017667/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017667/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I write to request crime and anti-social behaviour data held by GMP under FOI.

I would like to obtain the crime and anti-social behaviour that is not already published as part of the existing neighbourhood crime data publication from GMP.

For clarity, I would like the data to cover the same period (August 2019 to present), be organised by month and district, and to offer a breakdown by specific sub-offences (as neighbourhood crime data is).

For example, if you have a 'Violence with injury' category then this would be broken down to ABH, GBH, etc., while 'Violence without injury' would be broken down to include common assault, battery, etc.

For anti-social behaviour I would be grateful for a breakdown by category and subcategory that you might hold.

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.

The information requested exempt under **Section 14(1) - Vexatious Requests.**

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 public 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.

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 to your request: **Burden on the Authority**. How do we consider burden, motive and harassment? | ICO

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, your request 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 GMP. To provide the data requested would involve manual review and redactions to each crime within the scope of your request so they do not contain operationally sensitive and personal information which could identify directly or indirectly a living human therefore Section 31(1)(a)(b) Law Enforcement and 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.

Crime data broken down by month and locality will result in several crimes where only one or two occurrences have happened in a locality in each month. This increases the likelihood of the people involved in that crime being identifiable. It will also reveal months where no occurrences have been recorded for some crimes. This will reveal to criminals that their offending has gone unreported, which will embolden them to continue offending, posing a risk to law and order and the safety of the public of Greater Manchester. Reviewing and redacting 7 years and 10 districts worth of data would cause a grossly oppressive burden to GMP.