

Date: 24th August 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017322/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please accept my apologies but I realise I refined it in the wrong way, removing an offence that I intended to keep in. Not my best moment! Please see the updated version below.

My request relates to the following offences:

Possession of weapons (offence codes 00826; 00853; 00861; 08103; 08117)

Handling stolen goods (offence codes 05401; 05402)

Possession of a controlled drug Class A (offence codes 09250; 09251; 09252; 09252; 09254; 09259)

For each of the three offence groups, please provide the following information:

(1)

How many women were arrested for the specific offences in the time period 30 June 2024 up to 30 June 2026?

(2)

How many of the arrested women were flagged with a domestic violence marker associated with their current or former partner, where their current or former partner was the perpetrator of domestic violence?

By this I mean the suspect arrested for the offence (e.g. handling stolen goods) had been flagged with a domestic violence marker where she is recognised as at risk of DVA, either previous to the arrest or following the arrest.

For information and definitions of domestic abuse indicators and domestic abuse flags, I am sharing this document from the HMICFRS. I have also shared an example when this information was provided as part of an FOI request into female offending - please see response to Q3 in the response provided.

I would like to receive the information electronically. If you feel that a substantive response to this request is not possible within a reasonable time frame, or the request is too broad or too vague, I would be grateful if you could contact me, and provide assistance as to how I could refine the request.

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 determine if a woman arrested has a domestic violence marker associated with their current or previous partner, especially where their current or former partner was the perpetrator of domestic violence would require a manual review including cross referencing various systems. From an initial search 992 custody records and linked crimes would need to be manually reviewed. At an estimate of 5 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 82.6 hours to ascertain the data required for question 2.

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.

Greater Manchester Police is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced. For example, removal of question 2. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

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 exceeded (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's 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. Any data provided for this request is subject to change as crimes are progressed and/or updated.

Management of Police Information regulations state that non-essential records should be removed from police systems six financial years after the year in which they were originally created. This means that data that is more than six financial years old may be incomplete and should not be compared to more recent data.

Search parameters:

- 30 Jun 2024 – 30 Jun 2026.
- Used offence codes – TH68 073, CJ88 144, CJ88 153, PC53 001, MD71210; MD71211; MD71212; MD71213; MD71214; MD71215; MD71219
- Offence Title
- Detainee gender

The total number of offences below does not reflect the number of individuals arrested as an individual can be arrested for more than one offence at a time. For example, one individual could have been arrested for Possess a controlled drug of Class A – Cocaine and Handle stolen goods, therefore they will be included in both totals.

The below data relates to 992 individual custody records.

Offence	Total Arrests for the Offence
Possess a controlled drug of Class A	553
Handle stolen goods	75
Possession of Weapon	478
Total	1,106

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk