



Date: 26/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017336/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017336/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request data regarding vehicle crime where the target vehicle is categorised as a Van or Panel Van.

Specifically, I request the following details:

1. *Theft from a Motor Vehicle: The number of recorded offences where the vehicle type is a Van/Panel Van, broken down by:*
 - *Make and Model (if recorded)*
 - *Category of items stolen (e.g., Tools, Equipment, Electronics, Personal Belongings, Vehicle Parts)*
 - *Month and Year of the incident*
2. *Theft of a Motor Vehicle: The number of recorded offences where the vehicle type is a Van/Panel Van, broken down by Make, Model, and Month/Year.*

Please cover the following timeframes:

- *1st January 2026 – 30th July 2026*
- *1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025*
- *1st January 2024 – 31st December 2024*

If extracting free-text property descriptions risks exceeding Section 12 cost limits, please prioritise providing structured property categories (e.g., 'Tools') alongside vehicle make and model.

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. There is no specific offence for theft of, or theft from a van, and type of vehicle is not a searchable field on our crime recording system. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of all crimes recorded under 048/01 – Theft of a Motor Vehicle and 045/10 – Theft from a Motor Vehicle to establish if the vehicle involved was a van.

A search of our crime records shows that there are approximately 38,000 records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 3,166 hours to ascertain the data required. Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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. 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.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP 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. For the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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.

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