



Date: 27/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017379/B

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017379/B

I write in connection with your request for information dated 04/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, for each calendar year 2021–2025, or financial years 2021/22–2025/26 if that is how the data is held (please state which basis is used). Counts based on the date on which the offence was recorded are acceptable.

This request is for aggregate counts only, drawn from your crime recording system. No manual review of individual crime records or case files is required. For the purposes of this request, "structured code" means a structured modus operandi (MO), method-of-entry, attack-method, asset-type, or equivalent recording code.

(a) Vehicle-enabled crime against business/commercial premises — please provide, separately:

(i) The number of recorded Burglary (Business and Community) offences where a structured code indicates a vehicle was used to breach the premises; and

(ii) The number of recorded Robbery of Business Property offences where a structured code indicates a vehicle was used to breach the premises.

If your system cannot readily separate these two classifications, a single combined count for (a) is acceptable, provided you state that the figure is combined.

Where a structured premises- or asset-type code allows retail premises to be identified separately, please also provide the retail-premises subset. If no such distinction can readily be made, the broader business/commercial premises count is acceptable, provided the scope of the figure is stated.

(b) ATM-targeted crime: the number of recorded offences, under whichever classification your force uses to record attacks on automatic teller machines (e.g. Theft, Burglary, Criminal Damage or Robbery of Business Property, as applicable), where a structured code indicates

that a vehicle was used — whether to breach the premises, to physically attack the ATM, or to remove or attempt to remove it.

(c) EV charging infrastructure: the number of recorded Criminal Damage offences where a structured code indicates damage to an electric vehicle charge point caused by vehicle impact. If this cannot be identified from structured codes without reviewing individual records, please state that this information is not retrievable from structured fields. No alternative or keyword-based figure is requested for this part.

(d) Only where the information requested in (a) and/or (b) cannot be retrieved using structured codes, please instead provide, for each year, the number of distinct recorded offences returned by a free-text search of MO fields, crime notes or equivalent searchable fields for one or more of the following terms: "ram raid", "ram-raid", "ramraid", "rammed the shutter", "rammed the door", "drove through the shopfront", "drove through the shop front", "vehicles used to gain access" and "vehicles used in the commission of the crime". If your system cannot de-duplicate records matching more than one search term, raw hit counts by term are acceptable, provided you clearly state that records may be counted more than once. No manual validation or review of the returned records is requested, and I accept that the results may contain false positives or incidents outside the intended scope, provided that limitation is clearly stated in your response. If searching all fields would exceed the cost limit, a search of the MO/method field alone is acceptable. A single combined count covering both (a) and (b) is acceptable where the search cannot distinguish between them.

If the estimated cost of complying with the request as a whole would exceed the appropriate limit under Section 12, please treat the following as my preferred refinement of the request, to the extent necessary to bring it within the limit: first (a), then (b), then the free-text search in (d), and finally (c), and, within each element, the most recent years first. If further refinement is required, I would welcome advice and assistance under Section 16 before the request is refused.

I am content for counts below 5 to be reported as "<5". Where individual annual counts are reported as "<5", please also consider providing the unsuppressed total across the full 2021–2025 (or 2021/22–2025/26) period, where this can be disclosed without creating an identification or other disclosure risk.

If easily stated without further searching, please also indicate:

- Which offence classification(s) each count falls under; and*
- Whether "ram raid"-type incidents are recorded under a specific MO, attack-method or method-of-entry code at your force.*

I would prefer to receive the response by email to this address, ideally as a table. If email attachments are restricted, I am happy to receive the response in the body of an email, or by post to the address below.

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 provide the data requested in question C would involve a manual search of all damage crimes to establish if the item damaged was EV charging infrastructure and whether a vehicle was involved.

A search of our crime records shows that there are approximately 1,600,000 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 133,333 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.

Please be advised that parts A and B can not be answered using structured codes, a manual review would be required, further adding to the time needed to complete this request. Skipping to part D, we can search for crimes with crime created date between 01/01/2021 and 31/12/2025 where the following phrases appear within the crime description or crime MO description fields:

- 'ram raid'
- 'ram-raid'
- 'ramraid'
- 'rammed the shutter'
- 'drove through the shopfront'
- 'drove through the shop front'
- 'vehicles used to gain access'
- 'vehicles used in the commission of the crime'

We can create synthetic flags to show which crimes contain each of these phrases and to indicate where more than one of the phrases appears. Please bear this in mind if you decide to make a revised request. Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk.