

Friday, 28 August 2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017411/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017411/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/08/2026, I note you seek access to the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for each calendar year from 2021 to the most recent period available.

- 1. The total number of offences recorded under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.*
- 2. The total number of offences recorded under Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (dog dangerously out of control).*
- 3. The total number of arrests made in connection with offences under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.*
- 4. The total number of arrests made in connection with Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (dog dangerously out of control).*
- 5. Where recorded, the age of the victim, grouped into the following bands:*
 - Under 18*
 - 18-24*
 - 25-34*
 - 35-44*
 - 45-54*
 - 55-64*
 - 65+*
- 6. The number of victims recorded as:*
 - Postal workers, couriers and delivery drivers;*
 - Utility workers, engineers or contractors.*
- 7. The number of dogs seized in connection with Dangerous Dogs Act offences.*
- 8. The number of dogs destroyed in connection with Dangerous Dogs Act offences.*
- 9. Where recorded, the breed or suspected breed involved in the greatest number of recorded offences during the most recent year available.*

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 the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

To provide the data regarding Part 9 would involve a manual search of all relevant records as there isn't a specific field that can easily identify breed of dog. From initial searches carried out a total of 7,011 records would need to be manually reviewed. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18hours to provide the requested information.

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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill (see below information), I have supplied information, relative to your request, that was retrieved / available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Parts 1, 2 & 5

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.

- This data contains crimes with a created date between '01/01/2021' and '31/12/2025', with a HO code of '008/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as non-counting fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB.

- The victims age has been calculated using the crime committed date and the person date of birth. Please note:
 - The crime committed date may be different to other dates e.g. reported or created.
 - The crime committed date may be recorded as a range where the crime occurred over a period of time or where it is not possible to say exactly when it occurred. In these cases, the first date in the range has been used for the calculation.
 - Age cannot be calculated where the crime committed date and/or person date of birth has not been recorded.
 - The calculated age may be incorrect where the person date of birth has been recorded incorrectly.
 - There are six records within this dataset where the victims age is populated as '-3', this is incorrect and due to a data error. These six records have been grouped into the 'Unknown' category.
 - The 'Unknown' age category includes records where no victim record is attached to the crime (372 cases), where the victim's date of birth was not recorded (151 cases), and the six cases where the age was incorrectly recorded as '-3' due to a data error.
- Please note, there are crimes in this response with no victim attached.

Data

Age	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
18-24	72	86	127	108	106
25-34	146	181	223	208	218
35-44	144	198	215	255	232
45-54	156	174	205	213	198
55-64	99	125	178	154	166
65+	91	110	132	114	124
Under 18	166	303	359	421	475
Unknown	24	45	28	26	34
No Victim Recorded	24	37	66	121	124
Total	922	1259	1533	1620	1677

Part 6 No information held. We do not have a field that describes the victim occupation at the time of crime.

Part 7 Data for 2019 to 2025 is already available online [here](#)

Parts 3, 4 & 8 – Searches not completed

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. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting should be reduced to Parts 3, 4 & 8 as searches had not been completed with this request. 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.