

Date: 28/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017471/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017471/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Questions

a) The total number of recorded offences of indecent images (still or moving) of children and prohibited images of children for the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

b) The number of recorded offences which related to pseudo images of children or where Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated child abuse image was detected.

c) For each offence for the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 please break it down by the platform used to commit the offence where known using the following key word search:

Snapchat,

- a) Facebook/Messenger,***
- b) Instagram,***
- c) WhatsApp,***
- d) X/Twitter,***
- e) Kik,***
- f) TikTok,***
- g) YouTube,***
- h) Discord,***
- i) Skype,***
- j) Facetime,***
- k) Roblox,***
- l) Oculus,***
- m) VR,***
- n) Metaverse,***
- o) Only Fans,***
- p) Signal,***

- q) *iCloud,*
- r) *iMessage,*
- s) *Dropbox,*
- t) *Mega,*
- u) *Patreon,*
- v) *Reddit,*
- w) *Imgur,*
- x) *and other social media or messaging site, other cloud storage sites and online gaming.*

d) What is the total number of perpetrators linked to the offences in question A?

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.

Caveats

- The Grand Total is all crimes recorded with the HO Codes detailed on the 'HO Codes' tab for the period 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026. These have been broken down into the 2 categories.
- For Part b of the request all the above returned crimes were searched using the keyword 'Artificial Intelligence' – Using AI to search with would return too many anomalies.
- Please note for Part c of the request the individual keywords provided have been searched. We cannot provide volumes for those that fall under any "other" social platform than those provided as this would involve a manual review of all 2,239 crimes.
- For Part c of the request, there may be some cross over if multiple platforms have been used in 1 crime.
- For Part d of the request, please note that 1 x crime per Suspect/ Perpetrator is recorded.
- Where possible duplicate records have been removed from the data.

Part A and B.

Crime Code & Description	Crime Count
086/02 - Take/ make / distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of children	1,837
086/10 - Possession of an indecent or pseudo indecent photo of a child	385
086/15 - Possessing prohibited images of children	17
Grand Total	2,239

Part C.

Platform	Crime Count
Faceook/ Messenger	31
Instagram	55
Whatsapp	83
X/ Twitter	14
Kik	39
Tik Tok	17
You Tube	15
Discord	46
Skype	0
Facetime	19
Roblox	7

Oculus	0
VR	4
Metaverse	0
Only Fans	4
Signal	2
iCloud	4
iMessage	4
Dropox	15
Mega	1
Patreon	0
Reddit	10
Imgur	1
Other	N/A – See Caveat above

Part D.

1 x crime per Suspect/ Perpetrator is recorded i.e if there is 1 Victim with multiple Offenders a crime will be created for each Offender.