

Date: 17th September 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017628/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/017628/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For the period 1 January 2024 to the date of this request:

1. How many crimes/incidents recorded by the force contain any of the following terms in searchable free-text fields:

“smart glasses”, “smartglasses”, “Meta glasses”, “Meta smart glasses”, “Ray-Ban Meta”, “Ray Ban Meta”, “Ray-Ban glasses”, “AI glasses”, “camera glasses”, “recording glasses”, “spy glasses”, “wearable camera” or “wearable technology”.

2. Please provide, for each matching record where held and capable of disclosure:

- year;***
- offence/incident classification;***
- whether an arrest was made;***
- whether a suspect was charged/summonsed;***
- recorded outcome.***

3. Please provide the number of matching records containing any of these additional terms:

TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, social media, posted, uploaded, shared, livestream, live stream, harassment, stalking, voyeurism, filming, filmed, recording, recorded.

4. If the force cannot search free-text records using the above terms, please state:

- which fields/databases can be searched;***
- which of the requested terms can be searched;***
- whether smart glasses/wearable recording devices have a specific marker, category or flag.***

5. If smart-glasses-related offending is not separately identifiable, please confirm this.

I am seeking statistical information, not personal information or information identifying victims or suspects.

If answering the entire request would exceed the section 12 cost limit, please provide the information that can be supplied within the limit, prioritising questions 1, 2, 4 and 5, and advise how the remainder could be narrowed.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

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 Jan 2024 and 10 Sep 2026, where one of the following keywords/phrases is contained within either the 'crime description' or 'crime MO description' fields, 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:
 - Smart glasses
 - Smartglasses
 - Meta glasses
 - Meta smart glasses
 - Ray-ban meta
 - Ray ban meta
 - Ray-ban glasses
 - AI glasses
 - Camera glasses
 - Recording glasses
 - Spy glasses
 - Wearable camera
 - Wearable technology
- We have added synthetic flags for where the 'crime description' or 'crime MO description' fields contain any of the following keywords. There are not flags that are already stored on our system and have been created specifically for this request as an alternative to providing the whole crime MO:
 - Tiktok
 - Instagram
 - Facebook
 - Youtube
 - Social media
 - Posted
 - Uploaded
 - Shared
 - Livestream
 - Live stream
 - Harassment
 - Stalking
 - Voyeurism
 - Filming
 - Filmed
 - Recording
 - Recorded
- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.

- Some offences may only be available for part of this time period i.e. they may have started or stopped being used during this period.
- A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing and an outcome has not yet been applied.
- Suspects have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.
- We are aware of a system issue that allows arrest records to be created without being linked to a crime record, where a crime has been created on the system for the same instance. This is incorrect and will affect reporting which relies on arrest and crime records being linked.
- We have included a synthetic flag for where there is an arrest linked to the crime. This is based on whether there is a custody record with a first arrest date between 01 Jan 2023 and 15 Sep 2026 linked to the crime.
- The detainee arrested may not be the same individual as the person listed as a suspect on the crime.

Due to the low numbers returned, the data provided has been split from each other as by providing all this information together would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By splitting this data it can be provided in its entirety.

Crime Latest Classification	Total
All Other Theft Offences	1
Other Sexual Offences	2
Public Order Offences	2
Stalking and Harassment	1
Theft from the Person	1
Vehicle Offences	4
Violence Without Injury	1
Total	12

Crime Latest Outcome	Total
Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender.	2
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible –Case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	7
Missing Value	1
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action.	1
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action.	1

Please note, a crime can contain more than one keyword flag.

Keyword Flag	Total
Tiktok	1
Instagram	0
Facebook	0
YouTube	0

Social Media	0
Posted	2
Uploaded	0
Shared	0
Live Stream	0
Harassment	0
Stalking	0
Voyeurism	1
Filming	0
Filmed	2
Recording	3
Recorded	2

There is 1 recorded crime with a linked arrest.