



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_24_0958
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 06/11/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0958

On 22/10/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

A list of incidents involving illegal drugs within school grounds for the following periods:

2019/20
2020/21
2021/22
2022/23
2023/24
2024/25

Please include the age range of the suspects, a breakdown of the illegal drug in question, the number of arrests made for each incident, and the crime in question (possession, supply etc.)

Clarification was sought from yourself in which you provided the following

I am looking for the number of 'offence' reported to you as opposed to the substantiated crimes. If the age breakdown or other classifications will breach the cost limit, then I am happy to not have those.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary may hold some relevant information.

As previously confirmed the Incident Recording System is largely a free text entry system and therefore its reporting function is limited. There is no recording category or tag for schools therefore it would require a manual review of all drug related incident reports which would far exceed the 18hrs prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

I have previously advised how you could refine your request by using substantiated crime data however you confirmed this would not be helpful to you.

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Gloucestershire Constabulary, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states the fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

In relation to your request Section 12 applies.

Section 12(1) – Fee Regulations states:

Section 1(1) of the Act does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. (As detailed in the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Fees Regulations of 2004)

The appropriate limit at the moment is £450 calculated at an hourly rate of £25 per hour for all staff time incurred in:

- i. Determining whether information is held
- ii. Locating it
- iii. Retrieving it
- iv. Extracting the information to be disclosed from the other information.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for your request.

Section 16 – unable to assist

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timescale but still provide meaningful information.

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following means:

Website - <https://ico.org.uk/>

Call their helpline - 0303 123 1113

Email - casework@ico.org.uk

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary