



Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2022.0007

I would firstly like to apologise for the delay in responding to your request. This has been due to an exceedingly high volume of requests and resourcing issues which have impacted both upon the Information Disclosure team and the business areas upon whom we rely to supply the information.

On 5 January 2022 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

- 1. Please confirm whether your police force has considered entering into a collaboration agreement pursuant to section 22A of the Police Act 1996 (as amended by the PRSRA) to establish a Forensic Capability Network (FCN).*
- 2. Please confirm whether, as a result of such consideration, that such an agreement has been signed and if not please supply the reasons for not entering such an agreement.*
- 3. If, such an agreement has been entered, please supply the date on which the agreement came into legal force.*
- 4. Please confirm whether your police force has agreed that the Forensic Capability Network will prepare the next round of contracts for physical forensic services as part of their "next generation procurement" as detailed here on the FCN website <https://www.fcn.police.uk/news/2021-11/seven-year-plan-next-generation-procurement-physical-forensics-goes-market> , in other words, is your police force using this process or something else to procure such services?*
- 5. If your police force is using something other than the Forensic Capability Network's process described in (4), please provide information as to what that process is.*

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

In response to the questions as of the date of your request, I can say the following:

1. Following the national Transforming Forensics and Forensic Capabilities Network review by Sir Craig Mackey, all actions to create and sign a S22a for this purpose have been paused. There is no new agreement to sign as yet.
2. As above.
3. As above
4. Gloucestershire is a member (via s22a) of the West and South Coast Consortium (WSCC). We will continue to purchase our external service provision through this

group for the next couple of years and until the FCN's Next Generation Procure system has been in operation and can be fully reviewed as to its performance. etc.

5. WSCC contracts.

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.

Yours sincerely,