



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0118

On 25/01/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information. Please may you provide me with:

1. How many reports of gender-based violence were made to your unit of police, with a yearly breakdown of 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.
2. How many subsequent arrests were made of individuals perpetrating gender-based violence, with a yearly breakdown of 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.
3. Of these arrests, please can you categorize the charges related to perpetrating gender-based violence, specifically by whether the victim was a man or a woman and giving the numbers of femicides and homicides with a yearly breakdown of 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.

I would like to make it clear that I am not asking for personal information, merely the number of gender-based violence reports and categorizing them by degree of assault and gender of the victim.

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

When an Individual contacts the police, i.e. makes a report, and it is deemed to be a police matter, an incident will be created on the Incident Recording System. Please note that the word "incident" in Gloucestershire Constabulary's terminology refers to a type of record, not the event as a whole. If an offence is being reported (rather than a missing person for example) the "incident" will be assessed to determine if the offence falls within the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime. If that incident is deemed to fall within the counting rules, a "crime" will be recorded on the Crime Recording System.

The 2 systems are very different in as much as the Crime Recording System has very detailed information regarding the offence, the MO, the victims/offenders details (i.e. gender) and the police outcome, all of which can be retrieved electronically, whereas the Incident Recording System is very much a free text entry system with several tags/categories. Whilst there is a tag for Hate Crime on the incident Recording System, in order to determine the strand of hate crime (race, gender etc) and the offence type, a manual review of the records will be required.

I would like to also advise you that the Arrest Recording System does not have functionality to record hate crime related arrests. The primary function of the

Constabulary's Arrest Recording System is to assist the Constabulary in adhering to Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act and as such, its reporting function is limited. In order to ascertain if an arrest is made in relation to a hate crime, a manual review of all arrests would be required.

The only way of trying to determine whether any relevant incident or arrest information is held would be to manually review all incident records and arrest records, which would take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

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.

By way of assistance and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, I have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. 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.

The Crime Recording System is able to electronically retrieve information relating to the individual hate strand recorded, the offence type, the gender of the victim and the police outcome.

A search of the system has been carried out to identify substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2019 and 31/12/2022 where the Gender hate crime strand has been applied.

Total Crimes recorded:

Year	Total
2019	36
2020	21
2021	70

2022	81
Total	208

Total records where the outcome is Charge:

Year	Total
2019	2
2020	2
2021	1
2022	1
Total	6

Breakdown of the gender of the victim for the records where the outcome is Charge:

Year	Gender			Total
	Female	Male	Not Recorded	
2019	1	0	1	2
2020	1	1	0	2
2021	0	1	0	1
2022	1	0	0	1
Total	3	2	1	6

Breakdown of the offences recorded for the records where the outcome is Charge:

Offence	Year				Total
	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Common assault & battery	1	1	0	0	2
Criminal damage to £5000	0	1	0	0	1
Malicious communications	0	0	1	0	1
RORA fear/provocation of violence	1	0	0	1	2
Total	2	2	1	1	6

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,

