



Dear ,

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0239

On 24/02/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information please:

1. How many calls has your police service received regarding dogs left in vehicles on warm/hot days for each month for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.
2. How many calls/incidents reported to you regarding dogs left in vehicles on warm/hot days have resulted in officers being tasked to respond, again for each month for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022?

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

Unfortunately, there is no way of electronically searching for the information you have requested.

There is no tag/category on the Incident Recording System relating to dogs left in vehicles on warm/hot days. As such, in order to ascertain if any information is held, each incident recorded would need to be manually reviewed.

Given that the Constabulary records approximately 500 incidents per day, this would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of 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.

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.

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary