



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0247

On 28/02/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to domestic abuse.

Per calendar year from when the force was able to flag incidents reported to police control rooms as relating to domestic abuse up to and including 2022, please share the following information:

- Q1. How many incidents were reported to police control rooms?
- Q2. How many incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse?
- Q3. How many incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse where the alleged victim is a member of the armed forces? Please provide a breakdown by gender. Please also share how many of these incidents the military was informed of.
- Q4. How many incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse where the alleged perpetrator is a member of the armed forces? Please provide a breakdown by gender. Please also share how many of these incidents the military was informed of.
- Q5. How many violent crime incidents were reported to police control rooms?
- Q6. How many violent crime incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse?
- Q7. How many violent crime incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse where the alleged victim is a member of the armed forces? Please provide a breakdown by gender. Please also share how many of these incidents the military was informed of.
- Q8. How many violent crime incidents reported to police control rooms were flagged as domestic abuse where the alleged perpetrator is a member of the armed forces? Please provide a breakdown by gender. Please also share how many of these incidents the military was informed of.

In terms of time frame requested, if, for example, the force was able to flag these incidents from June 2016, I would like to receive data for calendar 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.

When an Individual contacts the police and it's 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 incident recording system is a largely free text entry system, and as such there is no way to electronically identify if an occupation has been recorded. Also, there is no mandatory requirement to capture this information. The only way to identify incidents where the victim is a member of the armed forces would be to manually review incident records held for the 6 ½ years requested. This would involve the review of thousands of records and would therefore take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you can refine your request to come within the cost constraints of section 12 of the 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.

Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, provides the opportunity to assist the applicant with any suggestions or variation that may allow a search to be undertaken within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

I confirm that the Constabulary could provide the following:

Data for Q1 & Q2 can be retrieved electronically.

Regarding Q5 and 6, whilst there is no recording category within the incident recording system for "violent crime", there is a category for "violence against the person". Searches

could be carried out to determine the total number of incidents where the category is recorded, and then filter the results to identify those where the DA tag has been applied.

If the suggested searches would be of use to you and you wish to submit a request on this basis, please let us know.

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