



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0285

On 08/03/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Can you please disclose the following information:

1. Using the key words 'Roblox', 'Fortnite', 'Clash of Clans', 'world of Warcraft', 'Minecraft' and 'FIFA', the number of reports of crimes involving online computer games in the past five calendar years, as well as updated data in the calendar year 2023 - broken down by calendar year
2. The category of offence under which the report was logged - for example sexual activity of a child under 13
3. Details of each alleged crime including the age and sex of the perpetrator(s) and victim(s) and the name of the game on which the alleged offence took place
4. The number of arrests and charges in the last five calendar years to the present day - broken down year on year

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

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

A search has been conducted on our Crime Recording System to identify substantiated crimes recorded with a date range of 01/01/2018 – 28/02/2023, where the MO text contains the key words 'Roblox', 'Fortnite', 'Clash of Clans', 'World of Warcraft', 'Minecraft' and 'FIFA'.

The Results are as follows:

1.

Year	Total
2018	4
2019	5
2020	4
2021	9
2022	4
2023	1
Total	27

2.

Category of Offence	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Fraud	1	1	1				3
Miscellaneous crimes against society	1	1	1	2			5
Sexual offences	1		1	1	1		4
Violence against the person	1	3	1	6	3	1	15
Total	4	5	4	9	4	1	27

3.

Gender of Victim	Total
F	9
M	16
U	1
Total	26

Ages for Victims	Total
0-15	14
16-24	7
25-49	3
50-64	2
Total	26

Gender of Suspect	Total
F	1
M	2
Total	3

Ages for Suspect	Total
0-15	2
16-24	1
Total	3

Game	Total
Clash of Clans	1
FiFa	2
Fortnite	13
Minecraft	2
Roblox	10
Total	27

4. No Information held

Any further correlation of information would likely identify individuals and is therefore exempt under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 17 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.

Section 17 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.

With regard to the disclosure of any further breakdown, the following exemption applies:

Section 40(2) Personal Information

Section 40(2) applies to third party personal data. This would not be released under the Freedom of Information Act unless there is a strong public interest. The disclosure of any information which could lead to the identification of an individual would breach the Data Protection Principles contained with the Data Protection Act 2018, namely the first principle which states that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals

This exemption is absolute and class based therefore I am not required to apply either the public interest test or harm test in disclosure.

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

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