



Dear ,

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0298

On 13/03/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing to you for the following information relating to Clare's Law - the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme - using under the Freedom of Information Act.

Would it be possible to disclose the following information - for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022:

1. How many requests for a disclosure were made to your force under the "Right to Ask" during the years stated above? Can you please include the gender of the person making the request if it was given?
2. Can you please break down as a percentage – the time it took to process the 'Right to Ask' disclosure requests:
 - a) 0-20 days,
 - b) 21-35 days and
 - c) 36+ days
3. Can you please provide me with the longest period of time it took to process a 'Right to Ask' application (from request to disclosure / outcome) during the years stated above?
4. How many requests for disclosures were made to your force under the under 'Right to Know' during this time period? Can you please reveal which gender the right to know request relates to?
5. Can you please break down as a percentage – the time it took process these 'Right to Know' disclosure requests:
 - a) 0-20 days,
 - b) 21-35 days and
 - c) 36+ days
6. Can you please provide me with the longest period of time it took to process a 'Right to Know' application (from request to disclosure / outcome) during the years stated above?

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

Unfortunately, it's not possible to electronically search for the information you have requested.

There is no way to retrieve statistical information regarding the Right to Ask and Right to Know requests for disclosures as there is no central register.

Any such disclosures are recorded on the Enquiry part of the Crime Recording System and therefore information can be retrieved per individual referenced but not in a statistical format.

A manual review of approximately 3000 records would be required in order to ascertain information specifically regarding the Right to Ask and Right to Know requests and then the subsequent information you are requesting regarding timescales and gender of those to whom the requests relate. 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