



Dear ,

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0316

On 16/03/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. The number of reported incidents of heating oil theft for each year 2020, 2021 and 2022
2. The number of reported incidents of heating oil theft that included a police officer attending the scene for each year 2020, 2021 and 2022.

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.

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. If that incident is deemed to fall within the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime, a crime will be recorded on the Crime Recording System.

The incident recording system is mainly free text and therefore it's reporting function is limited. Therefore it's not possible to search for the reports of such thefts on this system.

However, a search has been conducted of the Crime Recording system for theft offences recorded from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2022 whereby the property item of fuel/power[oil] was recorded as stolen.

The resultant records have been manually reviewed to retrieve just the information relating to heating oil thefts. The number of such crimes recoded is as follows:

Year	No. of crimes
2020	3
2021	3
2022	1
Total	7

The Incidents that were logged prior to these crimes being recorded have been manually reviewed and none appear to show that a Police Officer attended the initial call.

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