



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0370.

On 03/04/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please could you provide me with how many times your force has unlawfully forced entry into the wrong property for the following years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 (01/01/23 to the present day).

For each incident please provide: (a) the date of the unlawfully forced entry, (b) a brief explanation about why entry was forced and why it was deemed unlawful and (c) how much the operation cost in total.

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 in relation to how many times Gloucestershire Constabulary has unlawfully forced entry into the wrong property for the dates 01/01/2019 until 04/04/2023 and subsequently the further questions asked for the date, a brief explanation to why entry was force and why it was deemed unlawful and how much the operation cost in total. In order to retrieve the requested information would involve manually reviewing over 14,922 lines of data, which would take 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.

Section 16 – unable to assist

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