



Dear ,

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0464

On 26/04/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am requesting information for a study, in partnership with a car insurance company. Could we please have information and statistics on:

Vehicles without insurance

1. Total number of arrests for not having valid insurance in 2022
2. Total number of convictions for not having valid insurance in 2022
3. Total number of cars impounded for being driven without valid insurance in 2022
4. All of the above for 2021 (so we can see if there has been a rise or fall in numbers)

Road Rage

5. Road rage incidents reported in 2022 and 2021

Car Theft

6. Car theft incidents reported in 2022 and 2021, including information on car type/model

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.

Although it's possible to retrieve information about individual instances of drivers being caught driving an uninsured vehicle, it's not possible to retrieve statistics. This is because there is no one system that keeps the records and thousands of records would need to be manually reviewed to ascertain the specific information. This would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Constabulary records crimes as per the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crimes. I can confirm that there is no specific offence of Road Rage. As such in order to ascertain if any crimes that had been recorded in the time period requested related to some form of Road Rage, a manual review of all crimes would be required. Given that this would involve manually reviewing thousands of records, this would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to 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.

Under Section 16 duty to assist I can confirm it's possible to retrieve the number of vehicles that have been seized for having no insurance and the number of crimes of Theft of Motor Vehicles recorded.

With regard to crimes that may have resulted from a road rage incident, it's possible to conduct a free text search for specific terms in the MO of crimes recorded.

If just the above information would be useful, please submit a new FOI request to foi@gloucestershire.police.uk ensuring you confirm which terms you would like us to search relating to potential road rage crimes.

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