



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0561

On 23/05/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. How many cases of cuckooing have you dealt with in the financial year of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23?
2. How many cases of cuckooing have you dealt with in the financial year of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23 have included victims with disabilities?
3. What is the average age of the victims of cuckooing across the financial years of (a) 2018-19 (b) 2019-20 (c) 2020-21 (d) 2021-22 and (e) 2022-23?

Please present your response as similar to the following:

Cases

2018-19 – 42

2019-20 - 54

2020-21 - 58

2021-22 - 50

2022-23 – 60

Cases which involved victims with disabilities

2018-19 – 12/42

2019-20 – 14/54

2020-21 – 12/58

2021-22 – 20/50

2022-23 - 21/60

Average age (of all cases)

2018-19 - 64

2019-20 - 63

2020-21 - 63

2021-22 - 65

2022-23 – 64

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

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

Unfortunately there is no way of electronically searching for the information you have requested.

There is no central register of reports of cuckooing. There may be information recorded in the Incident Recording System, the Crime Recording System or the Intelligence System but none of the systems have a tag/category relating to cuckooing.

In order to ascertain how many cases may have been dealt with, a manual review of all incidents, crimes and intelligence reports would need to be carried out for the time period requested. This would involve manually reviewing thousands of records, which 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