



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0567

On 24/05/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please can you tell me how many instances were the police called as a result of a dog attack from 1st January 2022 to 1st May 2023 (inclusive)

Please also tell me in how many of those cases the dog in question was destroyed, either on-scene or after the fact.

Please split the data up by month and year.

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

Unfortunately there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches.

Whilst we are able to provide a total of the number of incidents reported under the category of "Dog Attack", the only way to determine if the dog was destroyed as a result of the report would be to manually review the incident and cross reference with other constabulary systems. To do this would exceed the permitted time constraints and therefore Section 12 of the Act is applicable. This section does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimated that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours, equating to £450.00

Please see below for suggestions on how you can 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.

Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, provides the opportunity to assist applicants with any suggestions or variations that may allow a search to be undertaken within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

As mentioned above, we are able to provide the total number of incidents recorded where the dog attack tag has been applied.

We hold details of dog seizures and destructions separately to the number of incidents reported, and although we are able to identify relevant data for this part of your request please note that the data will not correlate. If this would still be of use to you, you can submit a new request to FOI@gloucestershire.police.uk

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