



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0599

On 05/06/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Thanks for your response. Can I ask for the total number of referrals to the NRM for modern-slavery victims made to the force from April 2022 - April 2023?

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

Following the response to your previous request, further enquiries have been made. It has been confirmed that whilst referrals are recorded if there is a relevant related crime, as there are several routes for referrals to be received with no central register for recording, there is no way to confirm the total number submitted to the force by the various organisations who have cause to do so.

As the information you have requested may be held by Gloucestershire Constabulary but is not recorded statistically, nor held in a format that would allow extraction within the permitted time constraints, we have estimated that to provide a definitive response and determine if the information requested is held would far exceed the permitted time constraints, 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.

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.

By way of assistance I can confirm that the Constabulary could search its crime database for substantiated crimes related to Modern Day Slavery. Depending upon the number of crimes retrieved by the search, we may be able to manually review the MO to determine whether information relevant to your request is held. If you wish to submit a request on this basis, please let us know.

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