



Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0618

On 08/06/2023, you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I would like to make a Freedom of Information Request (FOI)

My request relates to how many reports of wrongdoing have been made as Whistle blowing (or termed protected disclosure under legislation)

1. For the year 2020, how many reports of whistle blowing did you receive ?
2. For the year 2021, how many reports of whistle blowing did you receive ?
3. For the year 2022, how many reports of whistle blowing did you receive ?
4. How many serving officers do you currently have ?

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

In order to ascertain how many reports of wrongdoing have been made as Whistle blowing for the date range of 01/01/2020 – 31/12/2022. A search of hundreds if not thousands of complaints conduct matter and data stored on other records, would need to be collected and extracted, then a manual review would need to be conducted to see if the data fits into the Whistle blowing definition, this 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.

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.

With regards to question 4, workforce statistics are published by the Home Office, you can view the statistics by clicking the link. [Police workforce England and Wales statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-england-and-wales-statistics)

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.