



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0757

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 22/08/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0757

On 26/07/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing to you on behalf of BBC News for the following information using under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1) Please could you provide me with the latest reports of drink and needle spiking, reported to your police force for each month from 1st January 2018- 31st March 2023?
- 2) Can you please break down how many incidents were drink spiking and how many were needle spiking?
- 3) Can you please list how many victims were male and how many were female?
- 4) And how many people have been charged following the reports of these spiking incidents?
- 5) What age was the youngest victim?

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

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

A search of the Crime Recording System has been carried out for the number substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2018 and 31/03/2023 where one of the following offences has been recorded:

- 088/05 – Administering a substance with intent
- 008/02 – Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy
- 005/10 – Administering poison so as to endanger life

This has returned a total of 388 records.

A manual review of the MO has then been conducted to identify the number of records where the keyword “drink”, “injection” or “needle” has been recorded. This has reduced the number of relevant records to 244.

The results are broken down as follows:

Method	Total
Drink	179
Injection	45
Needle	20

Of the records identified where Drink, Injection or Needle have been recorded, the breakdown of the gender of the victim is as follows:

Sex	Total
F	171
M	57
U	16
Total	244

No charges have been made following investigation of these identified crimes.

The recorded age of the youngest victim is 13yrs.

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.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following means:

Website - <https://ico.org.uk/>

Call their helpline - 0303 123 1113

Email - casework@ico.org.uk

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary