



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0816

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 11/09/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0816

On 12/08/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I have a brief query about Q4)

4) For each financial year (2021/22 and 2022/23): how many disability hate crimes resulted in a charge or summons?

For each police force, we are looking to understand the data behind crimes for which there is a no charge outcome.

So I have an additional question (see below for Q7; answer space added to the attached blank Excel file). Thank you very much.

More explanation of the reason behind the additional Q7.

For each financial year again, we are particularly looking for the numbers of offences for which the following categories are relevant:

NO CHARGE OUTCOME- No suspect identified/unsolved

NO CHARGE OUTCOME- Evidential difficulties (suspect identified; victim supports action)

NO CHARGE OUTCOME - Evidential difficulties (Suspect identified; victim does not support action)

If you can provide as much detail as possible on all reasons behind the no charge outcomes (within the time limits), that would be greatly appreciated.

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

Unfortunately, it is not possible to electronically search for the reasons behind the no charge outcomes, in order to retrieve and identify the reasons behind the no charges outcomes a manual review of 322 records, which 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.

Providing Information Outside of the Act

By way of assistance and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, we have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. We trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

A search has been conducted for the police outcome of recorded hate crimes from 01/04/2021 – 31/03/2023.

The results of no charge outcomes by financial year:

Police Outcomes	Apr21-Mar22	Apr22-Mar23
Investigation Complete - No Suspect	37	59
IP Does Not Support - No Suspect	14	15

IP Does Not Support - Suspect Identified	62	64
IP Supports - Suspect Identified	31	40
Total	144	178

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