



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0831

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 14/09/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0831

On 17/08/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I would like to know the number of motor vehicles that were seized by Gloucestershire Police each month in the calendar year of 2021.

Please breakdown the number of the seized motor vehicles by category, specifically: electric scooters, electric unicycles, hoverboards, electric bikes that don't comply with the EAPC regulations, off-road motorbikes, and road-legal vehicles.

I would also like to know whether all the seized vehicles that could not be returned to their owners were disposed of in accordance with the disposal of vehicle regulations.

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

Whilst it can be determined how many vehicles have been seized, there is no way to electronically identify the number of vehicles returned, or not, to owners, or the reason for the seizure (i.e. non-compliance with EPAC regulations). In order to identify this information, a manual review of the seizure record would be required, along with checks of the OIC's pocket notebook, and possibly even separate enquiries with the recovery firms. This would involve the review of hundreds of records and would therefore take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by 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 am unable to provide any assistance under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act as I am unable to suggest any way to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

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