



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_23_0897

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 09/10/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0897

On 12/09/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide the following information:

1. How many reports of crime violating the Dangerous Dogs Act were reported in the past four calendar years (2019-2022)?
2. How many of these resulted in a charge?
3. How many resulted in successful prosecution?

Please break down by calendar year.

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.

I can confirm that a search has been conducted of crimes recorded from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2022 whereby the offence recorded was 8/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing

dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog.

The results are as follows relating to the number of crimes recorded and the subsequent number that were recorded with a police outcome of charge/summons:

Year	No. of Crimes	No. of Charges
2019	204	19
2020	206	5
2021	199	15
2022	258	8
Total	867	47

Please note that the Constabulary only holds data in relation to the number of individuals charged/summoned for a particular offence. The ultimate outcome of these offences depends on what happens at court i.e. whether the offender is found guilty (convicted) or not. This information comes from the court results which do not come within our systems. Hence we record the detection disposals for each case but do not have the ultimate conviction data.

Therefore any information relating to the outcome of a case, the length of sentence or whether any appeal was made is not held by the constabulary, but by the HM Courts Service. Please find a link below to their website:

www.justice.gov.uk/

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