



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_23_0924

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 17/10/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0924

On 20/09/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the freedom of information, I ask the following.

1. I do believe that you are having an open day on the 23rd September 2023,
 - a. can you tell me how much this is costing,
 - b. has a traffic management company been used to help plan the event, and why?
 - c. How much is the refreshments costing, and
 - d. are there any body on overtime for this event,
 - e. how may police officers be involved at this event.
2. The refurbished Bamfurlong,
 - a. how much was this in total to refurbish, and
 - b. how much is the extra cost to re-roof the stables, .
 - c. why wasn't this picked up by the manager/planners of the stables when first built.
3. why do you have up to 12 individual stables for horses, when you don't have 12, please do not reply saying if other horses visit.
4. What salary grade is the equine manager on, and groom, why do you have a groom in the first place, as mounted officers are there to do that.
5. How much does it cost in the last year to run the mounted section, as cost of living has risen, include please the costings of running the horse box, include repairs, fuel and plating . please do not state that due to business change cannot get that information, its public money, of which i believe that you have to keep for at least 7 years.

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

1. I can confirm the following:

- a. The estimated cost of the Constabulary open day on 23/09/2023 is £40k
- b. Yes. A traffic management company was used to assist in planning and implementing measures to control the flow of vehicles and pedestrians to and from the event site.
- c. Refreshments cost £1620
- d. Information in relation to the staff numbers policing the event is exempt.

Section 17 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.

With regard to a breakdown of the number of officers policing the event, the following exemption applies:

Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement

The exemption above is qualified and prejudice based therefore both a Public Interest Test and Harm Test are required.

Evidence of Harm

To disclose the number of officers that were policing the event could cause subsequent harm to the Police service's ability to protect the public it serves and could prejudice its ability to perform core functions such as the prevention and detection of crime.

Releasing information relating to specific events would give individuals the intelligence required to disrupt police activity and will 'give way' to the capability of criminals, to target innocent members of the public.

To provide information about a specific event would leave events vulnerable in the future. This information could be used by criminals to target specific events depending on whether they are considered to be staffed adequately or inadequately.

The disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the Police service's ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

Public Interest Test

Factors in Favour of Disclosure

The disclosure of this information would lead to a better awareness of the policing resource in the County at specific events and provide information and reassurance to the public that adequate resources are in place to protect the Community.

Factors against Disclosure

The disclosure of information at event level would compromise law enforcement tactics by identifying policing capabilities and resources at specific events, thereby enabling criminals to target their activities to certain areas. This would enable more crime to be committed and have an impact on police resources, thereby hindering the prevention and detection of crime.

Balance Test

The Police Service is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Whilst there is a public interest in the transparency of policing activity and providing assurance that the police service is appropriately and effectively resourced, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police operations, tactics and capabilities in order to ensure that the protection of the public is safeguarded. Therefore it is our opinion that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

2. I can confirm the following:

- a. Section 17 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.

The following exemptions apply:

Section 21 – Information reasonably accessible by other means

The above exemption is absolute and class-based and therefore no Public Interest Test or Harm Test is required.

The information that you have requested is already reasonably accessible to you by other means and is therefore exempt by virtue of Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please see the information relating to the cost of the refurbishment published by the OPCC on the following [link](#)

- b. & c. No information held. The stables are not being re-roofed.

3. No information held. The Constabulary does not have 12 stables.

4. The Equine Manager is on a Principle Grade 2 and the Groom is on a Scale 3.

5. The only stand alone cost recorded that is associated with the mounted section is regarding the transportation. This has equated to £10,691.41 in the last year and includes both fuel and maintenance.

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