



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0925

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 2023.0925

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

1. Please could you provide the number of dogs destroyed by the force from 1 September 2020 to 1 September 2023?
2. Could this data be broken down by a) year, b) reason that the dog was destroyed, c) what breed the dogs were

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

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted. I can confirm that the information you have requested with respect to dog breeds may be held by Gloucestershire Constabulary however we do not record this information statistically, nor is this held in a format that would allow extraction within the permitted time constraints. Whilst the number of dogs destroyed is electronically retrievable, in order to identify the breeds of those dogs, a manual review of all records held by the relevant business area would be required. It has been estimated that this part of your request would far exceed the permitted time constraints, therefore Section 12 of the Act is applicable. This section does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimated that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours, equating to £450.00

You should consider this to be a refusal notice under Section 17 of the Act for this part of your request.

When applying the Section 12 exemption, our duty to assist under Section 16 of the Act would normally entail that we contact you to determine whether it is possible to refine the

scope of your request to bring it within the cost limits. However, from the information we have outlined above I see no reasonable way in which we can do so.

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.

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

2020

2 Dogs destroyed

1 x prohibited breed

1 x dangerously out of control (injury caused)

2021

0

2022

4 Dogs destroyed

4 x dangerously out of control (injury caused)

2023

6 Dogs destroyed

1 x prohibited breed

5 x dangerously out of control (injury caused)

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