



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0938

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/10/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0938

On 21/09/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am currently undertaking a scoping review to find out the answer to the question: 'Why do children in residential care go missing, and where do they go whilst missing?'

I write to request any information that you have on this topic, which may include internal reports or evaluations of the following:

- Innovative practices for dealing with missing children from residential care
- Strategies used to target resources to missing children from residential care
- Spatial behaviour of children who go missing from residential care (i.e., where they go whilst missing)
- Experiences and perceptions of partnership working with children's residential care homes and how this can be (or has been) improved
- Facilitators and barriers to identifying the reasons why children go missing from residential care
- Prevention activities in relation to children who go missing from residential care
- The effectiveness of Return Home Interviews and The Philomena Protocol with children who go missing from residential care in identifying the reasons why they go missing, and where they go whilst missing

The findings will help to provide an evidence base that can be used to provide direction to further research, and I will be producing a report once I have finished the scoping review, which I would be happy to share with you.

If you have any questions as to what may or may not be appropriate in terms of material, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds no relevant information.

The information you have requested has been passed to the relevant departments have they have confirmed that we hold no information. Gloucestershire Constabulary does not currently use the Philomena Protocol.

Under Section 16 duty to assist, please see the following links for the authorised professional practice pages on the College of Policing to which Gloucestershire Constabulary use for missing people:

[Missing persons | College of Policing](#)
[Practice bank | College of Policing](#)

We also use the government guidance on children missing from care, please see the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's partnership link [Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership | Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership](#).

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