



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_23_0957

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 25/10/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0957

On 28/09/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please confirm in the last three years how many investigations relating to child sexting, involving alleged offenders aged 18 and under, were carried out by your Force

Please specify how many people were charged following these investigations, and the age (at time of offence) for those who were charged.

You clarified the following:

When I refer to sexting I am seeking to secure data on cases which relate to the distribution of an indecent photograph / pseudo-photograph of a child.
The time period I am seeking data on is between 2019-2022.
I am only seeking data for cases relating to offenders aged 18 and under.

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 86/02 – take/make/distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of children and the offender was aged under 18.

Year	No. of Crimes	No. of Charge
2019	11	6
2020	2	1
2021	17	8
2022	3	1
Total	33	16

The ages of those who were charged were 1 x 14 year old, 4 x 15 year olds, 5 x 16 year olds and 6 x 17 year olds.

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