



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023_0958

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 2023.0958

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

Could I please refine my request to the following?

1. - The number of Community Protection Notices (CPNs) issued in the year 01/08/2022 - 31/07/2023.
2. - The number of dispersal zones declared in the year 01/08/2022 - 31/07/2023.
3. - The number of orders to disperse issued to individuals in the period 01/08/2022 - 31/07/2023.

This is information that most other police authorities have been able to provide. The publication of this information is also required under Home Office statutory guidance (ASBCPA 2014), so hopefully you will be able to proceed and answer my request.

I am aware that councils issue CPNs. However, police forces also issue them, and I am requesting any data held from your authority on your use of this power. If your police authority hasn't issued any CPNs then please state that in your response to the request.

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

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide some statistics to government bodies however, the systems used for recording figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing data.

Unfortunately, there is no central record for the recording of the issue of Community Protection Notices and dispersal orders. These are managed by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams and to determine if any relevant information is held, all Neighbourhood

Policing Teams and individual Police Officer Pocket Notebooks would need to manually reviewed.

Even by narrowing this request down to those most likely to potentially hold this information, or reducing the timescale of the request, we have estimated that this 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.

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.

Unfortunately I am unable to provide any assistance under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act as I am unable to suggest any way to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

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