



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.0971

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 31/10/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0971

On 03/10/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear Sir/Madam

Under Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

- Dog attacks by year since 2015 including; non-reported breeds, suspected breeds and confirmed breeds.
- Dog seizures by year since 2015 including; non-reported breeds, suspected breeds and confirmed breeds.
- Reports/calls of dangerous dogs from the public that resulted in seizure / action by year since 2015 including; non-reported breeds, suspected breeds and confirmed breeds.
- Reports/calls of dangerous dogs from the public that did not result in seizure / action by year since 2015 including; non-reported breeds, suspected breeds and confirmed breeds.
- Confirmation that trained dog handlers attended any call out to dogs. If not, the reasons as to why and the result of the call out.
- The number of trained dog handlers in your force.

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

Unfortunately, it's not possible to electronically search for the information you have requested in relation to incidents have been reported for dog attacks, seizures, reports of dangerous dogs and confirmation that a trained dog handlers attended any call out to dogs. In order to identify and retrieve the information, a manual review of all incidents would be required. Gloucestershire Constabulary record approximately 500 incidents per day. This would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

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.

Under Section 16, duty to assist, a search of the crime recording system can be conducted for the offence under Home Office Counting Rules 008/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog.

Separately a search can be conducted for the number of seizures and destruction.

If this would still assist please submit a new FOI request foi@gloucestershire.police.uk.

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