



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_23_1077

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 01/12/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.1077

On 06/11/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I would like to request information under the Freedom of Information Act.

- a) Please provide the number of how many registered Dog Legislation Officers (DLO) are employed by the force.
- b) Please provide information on how many examinations of dogs have been performed by the DLOs under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1989 for every calendar month since January 2021.
- c) How many of the examinations done by DLOs to determine if a dog was a banned breed (the answer to question B) resulted in a decision that the animal was of a banned type?
- d) How many dogs have been seized and destroyed by the force under the Dangerous Dogs Act for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and until November 1 2023? Please provide a number for the amount of seizures, and a separate figure for the number of destructions.
- e) How many of the dogs destroyed in answer to question D were classified as being of banned types? (Pitbull, Pit Bull Terrier, Japanese Tosa, Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro)

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.

There is no central register of the number of examinations done by DLOs. As such, in order to ascertain this information, the workload of 2 x DLOs for almost 3 years would need to be manually reviewed. This is estimated to take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 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.

Providing Information Outside of the Act

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

- a) The Constabulary employs 2 x DLOs.
- b) Exempt as above.
- c) 2 of the examinations conducted over the time period requested resulted in the decision that the animal was of a banned type.
- d) Please see the following table:

Year	Seized	Detroyed
2019	3	0
2020	2	2
2021	1	0
2022	14	4
2023	5	6

e) Of the dogs destroyed as per question d), 1 in 2021 and 1 in 2023 were classified as being of a banned type.

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