



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.1110

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 11/12/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.1110

On 15/11/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I wish to request post-arrest strip search rates by person characteristics for your police force.

I am requesting the following data:

For the three (3) financial years: 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 from your custody database I would like an Excel format tables with annual totals for each of the years. For each year, I would like four tables with the annual totals broken down by the following variables:

1. (Financial) year of detention.
2. Sex/gender (as appropriate).
3. Grouped age at time of detention (i.e. under 18, 18 and over)
4. Self-defined ethnicity.

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.

Strip searches are carried out in Custody, therefore a search of the Arrest Recording System has been carried out for authorised detentions where it has been recorded that a strip search has been conducted. I can confirm that a total of 845 strip searches were conducted between 01/04/2019 and 31/03/2023

The search results have been broken down as requested below –

Financial Year	Total
2019/20	254
2020/21	264
2021/22	123
2022/23	204
Total	845

Financial Year	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
2019/20	34	220	254
2020/21	31	233	264
2021/22	15	108	123
2022/23	38	166	204
Total	118	727	845

Age Group	Financial Year				Total
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Under 18	19	12	4	6	41
18 To 24	75	76	41	50	242
25 To 34	82	88	40	62	272
35 To 44	54	54	21	55	184
45 To 54	19	25	16	30	90
55 To 64	5	8	1	1	15
65 and over	0	1	0	0	1
Total	254	264	123	204	845

Ethnicity	Financial Year				Total
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Asian	11	16	3	5	35

Black	32	38	19	30	119
Mixed	15	14	9	9	47
Not Stated	5	7	3	8	23
Other	1	2	0	4	7
White	190	187	89	148	614
Total	254	264	123	204	845

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