



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023.1123

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 2023.1123

On 17/11/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please find freedom of information request below. Receipt of you receiving the request and a reference number would be appreciated. If you are minded to refuse the request on time and cost grounds, please get in touch in order to discuss what data you may be able to provide.

- a) The total number of recorded offences of indecent images (still or moving) of children and prohibited images of children for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.
- b) The number of recorded offences which related to pseudo images of children.
- c) The total number of recorded offences where an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated child abuse image was detected.
- d) For each offence for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 please break it down by the platform used to commit the offence where known using the following key word search: Snapchat, Facebook/Messenger, Instagram, WhatsApp, X/Twitter, Kik, TikTok, YouTube, Discord, Skype, Facetime, Roblox, Oculus, VR, Metaverse, Only Fans, Signal, iCloud, iMessgae, Dropbox, Mega, Patreon, other social media or messaging site, other cloud storage site and online gaming.
- e) The number of recorded offences of which contained a cyber-flag.

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

Unfortunately, there is no central register for the information in relation to the number of recorded offences where an Artificial Intelligence generated child abuse image was detected, and no way to retrieve the information by the way of electronic searches. Whilst it is possible to retrieve the number of offences of indecent images, prohibited images of and pseudo images of children, in order to identify where AI has been used to generate

images a manual review of 345 record crimes will need to be conducted. This manual review would take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by 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 if you resubmit your request omitting question C we will be able to provide you with the data you have requested.

If this would still assist please resubmit a new FOI to foi@gloucestershire.police.uk

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