



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_2024_0074
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 13/02/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2024.0074

On 16/01/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could I request the following information:

1. How many a) tasers b) batons c) PAVA spray and d) handcuffs have been lost, stolen, or are currently unaccounted for in your force in each of the last 5 years.
2. How many police vehicles have been 'written off' by your force in every year since 2015. Here, I would define 'written off' as no longer being roadworthy due to damage, or damaged beyond the point that repairs make financial sense.

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

Unfortunately, there is no central register to record if batons, handcuffs and PAVA Spray have been lost, stolen or unaccounted for. All supervising officer would need to be canvassed to determine any lost equipment. This would exceed the 18 hours as 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, we have supplied the 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.

Following receipt of your request, I can confirm that your request has been sent to the relevant department, who has confirmed the following:

1. There have been no Tasers recorded as lost, stole or unaccounted for.

If items are lost, stolen or unaccounted for, officers may pick up spares.

2. 45 police vehicle have been written off since 2015.

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