



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI\_24\_0076

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 FOI\_24\_0076**

On 18/01/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide the following information:

1) The total number of Disclosure Requests made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (also known as "Clare's Law") during the period 1st January 2023 up to and including 31st December 2023 inclusive by gender, age, & ethnicity.

For your ease of reference, please provide the details for the "Person at Risk" i.e. the person for whom the enquiry has been made by directly and/or on behalf of.

2) During the period 1st January 2023 up to and including 31st December 2023 inclusive, please provide the gender of the person making the enquiry regarding their current partner and/or the person making the enquiry directly on behalf of the "Person at Risk."

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

Unfortunately, Gloucestershire Constabulary's recording system for the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) requests does not facilitate electronically searching for gender, age or ethnic origin of the person who is at risk, or the person making the request (if different people). As such, in order to collate the requested information, DVDS requests received within the date range of 01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023 would need to be manually reviewed. This would involve manually reviewing over 900 records and therefore would clearly take far 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.

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

During the period of 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023, 489 Right to Ask Requests and 420 Right to Know requests were made to Gloucestershire Constabulary.

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](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow

Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer  
Gloucestershire Constabulary