



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0092

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 16/02/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0092

On 22/01/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. Does your police force have a Police Link Officer for Deaf People (PLOD) scheme?
 - 1a. If so, how many PLOD officers does your force have?
 - 1b. What British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications do those PLOD officers have?
2. How many of your officers have received Deaf Awareness training?
3. How many BSL-English Interpreter bookings were made with your Interpreter/Translation Service provider in 2023?

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

There is no central record held by Gloucestershire Constabulary for the number of times language interpreters have been requested. As interpreters may be required for a number of reasons, such as suspect interviews, witness/victim interviews or community engagement, to determine if their services have been engaged would not only be to manually review all custody records, crime records and case records but to also canvass all departments within the organisation. This would clearly take much longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act, and therefore Section 12 is engaged.

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, outside of the Act, I have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already 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.

Q.1 Gloucestershire Constabulary has joined forces with SignLive to provide a means for deaf BSL users to have access to our services.

Q2. 0

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