



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0192

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 08/03/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0192

On 13/02/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. How many total police officers do you have serving?
2. Please provide the number and percentage of serving police officers who have failed re-vetting procedures in the last five years.
 - a. How many of these officers are still serving even though they have failed re-vetting?
3. For the last three years, please provide as many examples as is financially possible of the following:
 - a. The rationale provided for rejecting vetting clearance for officers in relation to adverse information recorded as Violence Against Women and Girls-related. In each example, I would like a copy of the report made in rejecting vetting clearance, or as much of it as possible.
4. Does your force conduct face-to-face interviews (not including through audio/video telecommunications) as part of the vetting process?
5. Does your force check the content on publically available social media to ensure that the applicant's online behaviour is compatible with the Code of Ethics or Standards of Professional Behaviour, as part of the vetting process?
6. Please provide the average time between a police officer's initial vetting and re-vetting in your police force.

Please note I have reformatted these questions for ease.

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.

1. As of the end of December 2023 we have 1275.16 full time equivalent Warranted officers.
2. Currently there are no officers who have failed re-vetting in the last 5 years.
3. This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act.
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. No recorded information held. The timescales are not recorded and therefore an average is not available.

Section 17 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.

With regard to the disclosure of question 3, the following exemption applies:

Section 40(2) Personal Information

Section 40(2) applies to third party personal data. This would not be released under the Freedom of Information Act unless there is a strong public interest. The disclosure of any information which could lead to the identification of an individual would breach the Data Protection Principles contained within the Data Protection Act 2018, namely the first principle which states that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals

This exemption is absolute and class based therefore I am not required to apply either the public interest test or harm test in disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

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