



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0206

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 12/03/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0206

On 14/02/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Would you be able to provide me with the number of lost and abandoned animals found by the police in the last 5 years please? and or those that got reported to the police.

- Including those reclaimed by owners.
- Those which got put down.
- Those who got brought in to shelters.
- Those who required medical assistance.

And which of these animals are dogs or cats.

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

Unfortunately there is no way of electronically searching for the information you have requested.

There is no tag or category on the Constabulary Incident Recording systems that would specifically record lost and/or abandoned animals. There is a result code relating to Lost or Found Property or Animals. A search of incidents recorded from 01/01/2019 to 31/01/2024 whereby this result code was recorded has been conducted. This has resulted in 6,758 incidents being returned. In order to ascertain how many of these incidents related to lost/abandoned animals, a manual review would be required. This 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.

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timescale but still provide meaningful information.

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