



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0229

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/03/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0229

On 20/02/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please detail the number of individuals who were wanted on court arrest warrants for common assault, serious assault or rape for at least three months before they were arrested (or were never arrested).

Please break the data down into type of offence, the month the warrant was issued and the length of time before the individual was arrested. Please supply the data for warrants issued between Jan 2021 and December 2023.

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

Unfortunately, it's not possible to electronically search for the information you have requested.

There were 2546 warrants issued between 01/01/2021 and 31/12/2023 and in order to ascertain which offence(s) the warrant was issued for and whether that warrant remains live or has been executed, a manual review of each record would be required.

Such a manual review would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the 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.

Under Section 16, duty to assist, I can confirm that warrants are recorded with a grading of category A, B or C as per the National Police Chief's Council Matrix Guidance. It's possible to retrieve the number of live warrants that were issued during a certain time period and broken down by the grading. If this information would still be useful, please submit a new FOI request to foi@gloucestershire.police.uk.

Please note that only the live warrants can be retrieved for the above search.

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