



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0235

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 20/03/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0235

On 22/02/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Could you please send me the following information:

- 1) The number of violence against the person offences involving a corrosive substance that were recorded in each month in 2021, 2022 and 2023, plus January 2024 if available
- 2) The number of robbery offences involving a corrosive substance that were recorded in each month in 2021, 2022 and 2023, plus January 2024 if available

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.

I can confirm that the Crime Recording System has an Acid Attack tag and also a Home Office Flag of 'Corrosive Based Offence' that can be applied to recorded crimes. A search has been conducted of those crimes recorded from 01/01/2021 to 31/01/2024 whereby the

above tag or flag had been applied to the crime. A further filter has been applied to retrieve just those crimes that involved Violence against the Person offences or Robbery offences.

This search resulted in zero Robbery offences being returned.

Please see below for the number of Violence against the Person Crimes:

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Jan	1			1	2
Feb					0
Mar	2	1			3
Apr			5		5
May			3		3
Jun			1		1
Jul			3		3
Aug			3		3
Sep					0
Oct		1	5		6
Nov			2		2
Dec					0
Total	3	2	22	1	28

The above results are clearly dependent on whether the tag/flag had been applied to the crime record and therefore it is possible that there are further potentially relevant crimes that have not been identified from this 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