



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_24_0240
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_0240

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

As such the questions would now read:

1. How many offences of stalking were recorded by your police force between: 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022? And 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023?
2. How many dedicated specialist stalking officers (i.e. where the officer's time is wholly or solely reserved for the response, investigation, or management of stalking crimes) does your force currently have?
3. How many stalking Single Point of Contacts (SPOC) does your force have?
4. How many stalking SPO SPOCs does your force have?
5. In how many cases did your police force apply for one or more interim SPO between 01/04/22 and 31/03/23?
6. In how many cases did your police force apply for one or more full SPO between 01/04/22 - 31/03/23?
7. How many of those SPOs that your police force applied for between 01/04/22 - 31/03/23 ended up not being authorised by the superintendent and/or or not authorised by the police force legal services?
8. How many of those SPOs that your police force applied for between 01/04/22 - 31/03/23 ended up being refused at court?

9. How many of the SPOs you applied for between 01/04/22 - 31/03/23 had positive requirements?

10. How many breaches of SPO crimes were recorded between 01/04/22 - 31/03/23? How many resulted in a charge?

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.

Following receipt of your request, I can confirm a search has been conducted for offences under the Home Office Category of Stalking from 01/04/2021 – 31/03/2023. The results are as follows:

1. A breakdown of stalking offences by financial year

Offence	21/22	22/23	Total
Stalking	1517	1855	3372
Total	1517	1855	3372

2. Gloucestershire Constabulary does not have any Dedicated Specialist Stalking Officers only 1 dedicated resource.

3. There are 8 stalking trained Single Point of Contact (SPOCs)

4. There are 3 SPO SPOCs

5. Less than 5

6. Less than 5

With regards to questions 5 & 6 any further breakdown has been exempt under virtue of Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act.

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 any further breakdown, 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.

7. No information held

8. Zero (0), all have been approved

9. Zero (0)

10. Zero (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