



Your reference: N/A  
Our reference: FOI\_24\_0346  
E-mail: FOI  
@gloucestershire.police.uk  
Direct dial: 01452 754304  
Postal Address: As above  
Date: 23/04/2024

Dear

**Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 24\_0346**

On 22/03/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

How many arrests have been made in the last five years in your police force area using facial recognition technology?

Could you provide a breakdown of the type of facial recognition used: RFR, LFR or OIFR.

Could you provide a breakdown of the ethnicity and sex of the people being arrested and how many of these led to a criminal charge.

Could you also provide a breakdown of the type of crime

If you could break all of this down per year (calendar year if possible).

If it is not possible to provide some of the data requested, I would be grateful if you could provide whichever elements of this FOI request are eligible for release.

Therefore, if it is possible to ascertain within the prescribed time limit, without having to provide a fee for further investigations, please respond in electronic form with all the information above to the following email address: xxxxxxxx

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

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

The arrest recording system's primary function is to assist the Constabulary in adhering to Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. As such, its reporting function is limited. Although information that has contributed to the decision to arrest an individual will likely be held elsewhere in the system and on an individual basis, it's not possible to electronically retrieve this as a statistic. In order to ascertain if the Constabulary holds any relevant information, a manual review of all arrest records would be required. Given that this would involve manually reviewing thousands of records, it 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.

Unfortunately, I'm unable to suggest a way of refining your request to come within the cost constraints of the FOI Act. Even if you reduce the timescale, this would not reduce the number of records significantly enough to provide meaningful data.

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](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer  
Gloucestershire Constabulary