



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0374

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 01/05/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0374

On 05/04/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

The number of crimes involving zombie knives and machetes in your police force in the following years:

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

The number of victims involving zombie knives and machetes in your police force in the following years:

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

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.

A search of the Crime Recording System has been conducted to identify the information requested.

Please see the table below for the results.

Years	Crime Count	Victim Count
2018	7	8
2019	11	8
2020	13	9
2021	20	10
2022	15	7
2023	22	17
Total	88	59

The data is based on 2 searches;

- A search of all substantiated crimes where the offence falls under the Home Office Offence Category of Possession of Article with Blade or Point, and where the terms “machete” and “zombie” are contained within the MO freetext.
- A search of all substantiated crimes where the knife crime tag has been applied to the record and where the terms “machete” and “zombie” are contained within the MO freetext.

Duplicate records have then been removed from the results.

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