



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI\_24\_0403

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 10/05/2024

Dear

**Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI\_24\_0403**

On 11/04/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am making this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am attempting to find which areas use fake IDs the most.

I would like to request the following information:

The total number of people charged with the following offence in your region, each year for the last five years, with a breakdown by gender if possible:

From Home Office classification 61A 'possession of false documents' -

- 061/40 Possess or control a false, improperly obtained or another person's identity document.

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 a search has been conducted of crimes recorded from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2023 whereby the offence recorded was that of 061/40 Possess or control a false, improperly obtained or another person's identity document and the police outcome was charge/summons.

The result was 1 x person.

To provide any further information relating to this one crime, including the gender or year the offence was recorded would likely identify the individual and therefore is exempt under Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Consideration has to be made regarding any information that is already known to members of the public and/or in the public domain that combined with information disclosed under the FOI legislation could identify individuals. Therefore, although there is a legitimate interest in disclosing information surrounding this type of offence, any such disclosure cannot override the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the individuals involved.

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 information, 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.

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