



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0472

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 23/05/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0472

On 27/04/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I'm currently doing research on police use of Tasers as part of Masters Degree in Criminology from the University of Gloucestershire and as part of my research I require the below :

- 1 How many Tasers were deployed in the last 5 years
- 2 When a Taser is deployed is there a panel process to determine if this was a correct use of force
- 3 If there is a panel to have the data of the decisions of these incidents
- 4 if overuse of force was found, what happens to the officer ie, training, disciplinary, self-reflection ect?
- 5 What training is required to carry a Taser and the data in the last 5 years of this
- 6 What is the pass criteria and the data in the last 5 years of this of any changes and if how is this made sure that every officer has completed it
- 7 Is there any further training or refresher training and the data in the last 5 years of this and how is this made sure that every officer has completed it
- 8 Data on complaints made when Tasers were used (in all means, pointing to actual discharge)
- 9 How many of these complaints were upheld or refuted?

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

1. Data is only available from 01.01.2020, from this date a Taser has been discharged 138 times
2. Yes
3. Data only available for the past 2 years, the panel breaks the outcomes into three different categories

- Learning by reflection x45
 - Professional Standards Referral x7 (These were mandatory due to impact / risk factors as listed in the Authorised Professional Practice)
 - De-briefs completed x32
4. Referral to the Professional Standards Department
 5. Completion of a 4 day initial Taser course. (In the last 5 years the only change to this was in 2023 it went from a 3 day to a 4 day initial course)
 - 100% pass on Taser qualification shoot
 - 80% pass on knowledge check
 - 100% pass on summative scenarios
 6. This criteria has not changed in the last 5 years. Taser Instructors are present and assessing each element to ensure competence, all results are entered onto a training database.
 7. 1 day Refresher course is required within 365 days. This criteria has not changed in the last 5 years. Taser Instructors are present to ensure competence, all results are entered onto a training database.
 8. See table below
 9. 'Upheld' is not a terminology that we use for complaints. Please see the table for Q8 which shows how complaints are categorised.

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Resolved		1	1		1	3
Local Resolution - by division	2					2
Special Requirements	1					1
The Service Provided Was Acceptable		8	5	6	4	23
The Service Provided Was Not Acceptable		1	1			2
Withdrawn		1				1
No Outcome					3	3
Not Determined If the Service Acceptable					1	1
No Further Action required				2		2
Total	3	11	7	8	9	38

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