



Your reference: n/a
Our reference: FOI_24_0563
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 01/07/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0563

On 06/06/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. I would like the following figures on your police force's use of dispersal orders under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, for the last two financial years (2021/22, 2022/23):
2. The total number of authorisations of the power;
The total directions made by officers under the power;
The total number of arrests made under the power (split by reason)'

Please note I have reformatted your question for ease.

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

I can confirm our Constabulary does not have a central register that records the amount of dispersal orders that have been issued, therefore in order to obtain the information you have requested, we would need to canvass every officer to retrieve this information.

We do not have specific arrest code for breaching a dispersal order and therefore, in order to ascertain any relevant information to your request would require us to manually review all arrest records for the timescale requested, which would result in thousands of records to review. This would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by 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 assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timescale.

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