



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0713

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 19/08/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0713

On 29/07/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am seeking data on the number of reported cases of romance fraud in the year 2024 for Gloucester.

Please provide the number of romance fraud reports for this city in 2024.

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.

Gloucestershire Constabulary records crimes as per the Home Office Counting Rules, however 'romance fraud' is not a specific offence. Having reviewed the [Home Office Counting Rules For Fraud](#) document, page 19 confirms that 'Dating Scams' are recorded as 53/40 – Fraud by False Representation.

With this in mind, I can confirm that a search has been conducted of the Crime Recording System from 01/01/2024 to 27/07/2024 for any crimes with the above offence, and where

the Local Policing Area (LPA) is recorded as Gloucester. This has resulted in 1 crime being identified. To ascertain if this related to 'romance fraud', a manual review has then been conducted. Following this, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary have recorded 0 (zero) crimes of "Romance Fraud".

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