



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0776

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 12/09/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0776

On 21/08/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

1) Please state how many offences were reported involving:

- Zombie-style knives
- Zombie knives;
- Machetes

In each of the following calendar years:

2015,2016,2017,2018,2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024

2) Of those offences, please state how many involved youths (under 18) and the following breakdowns:

- The suspect;
- The victim;
- Calendar years of: 2015,2016,2017,2018,2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024

3) Of those offences, please state what the ethnicity was for those under 18 with the following breakdowns:

- The suspect;
- The victim;
- Calendar years of: 2015,2016,2017,2018,2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024
- Ethnic groups are: Black, Asian, Mixed and White

4) Of those offences, please state what the ethnicity was for those over 18 with the following breakdowns:

- The suspect;

- The victim;
- Calendar years of: 2015,2016,2017,2018,2019,2020,2021,2022,2023,2024
- Ethnic groups are: Black, Asian, Mixed and White

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 a search has been conducted of our Crime Recording System for all substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2015 and 20/08/2024 for the offence of 'Possession of article with blade or point'. A free text search has then been conducted for the terms "machete" and "zombie". This has then been broken down by victims and offenders, ages and ethnicities.

1)

Year	Total
2015	6
2016	8
2017	9
2018	7
2019	11
2020	13
2021	20
2022	15
2023	22
2024	10
Total	121

2)

Year	0-17		
	Offender	Victim	Total
2015	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0
2017	1	0	1
2018	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0
2021	0	2	2
2022	2	2	4
2023	1	6	7
2024	0	2	2
Total	4	12	16

3)

Year	Ethnicities for 0-17							
	Offender				Victim			
	Black	Not Stated	White	Total	Black	Not Stated	White	Total
2017	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
2022	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	2
2023	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	6
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total	1	1	2	4	2	1	9	12

4)

Year	Ethnicities for 18+								
	Offender				Victim				
	Black	Mixed	White	Total	Asian	Black	Mixed	Not Stated	White
2015	2	0	2	4	1	1	0	0	4
2016	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	1	6
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
2018	1	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	7
2019	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	8
2020	2	0	2	4	0	0	1	0	8
2021	1	3	5	9	1	2	0	0	5
2022	1	0	2	3	0	0	1	0	4
2023	0	0	4	4	1	1	2	1	6
2024	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	6
Total	11	4	23	38	3	5	4	2	60

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