



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_24_0809

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 27/09/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0809

On 03/09/2024 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 with stated timeline January 1, 2019 until the day this request is fulfilled.

Please provide the following:

1. A list of the number of NHS employees accused or arrested on allegations or charges of child sexual abuse.
2. A list of the number of child trafficking or abduction crimes involving the use of an NHS ambulance or an ambulance registered with NHS England.
3. A list of the number of crimes where such ambulance use described in (2) above has been traced to an NHS employee.
4. A copy of the Police Force's Serious Sexual Offences Problem Profile as well as child trafficking problem profile.

Such public records should include, but not be limited to, all complaints; allegations; claims; investigatory reports; analyses; summaries; memoranda and/or notes; interview recordings; transcripts and/or notes; reviews; emails, text or other electronic messages, voicemails, and/or other communications and/or correspondence; determinations; decisions; orders; resignation letters; employment reclassification documents; offers in compromise and/or settlement agreements; termination and/or transfer papers; letters of reproof and/or other disciplinary actions, whether imposed or not; referrals to law enforcement, administrative, and/or licensing agencies, departments, and/or bodies; appeals; court filings and/or rulings; and all similar materials notwithstanding the use of other terminology, nomenclature, or categorization by this or other involved public agencies.

When fulfilling this request, please exclude emails from mailing lists, which can often be identified by excluding emails with keyword "unsubscribe." If the records office has an alternative method for excluding emails from mailing lists, kindly employ that methodology.

This request is not made for commercial purposes and as I'm working on a story for news media Business Insider, I ask that all fees are waived in the processing of this request.

I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment or other digital method and due to the time-sensitive nature of my news article, would prefer to receive responsive records on a rolling basis as they become available, instead of in one, large, bulk.

If you determine that any of the information qualifies for an exemption from disclosure, I ask you to note whether the exemption is discretionary, and if so whether it is necessary in this case to exercise your discretion to withhold the information. In any event, please provide a signed notification citing the legal authorities on which you rely if you determine that any of the information is exempt and will not be disclosed.

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

Unfortunately, it is not possible to electronically retrieve the information you have requested in questions 1, 2 and 3. Although the crime recording system can and does capture information surrounding the occupation of a victim and/or offender, it is not possible to accurately report on this.

The occupation field within the system is free text and non-mandatory. As such, the field is not always completed. This field is held within the Person Record on the system and although this links to the Crime Record, it is only possible for the reporting function to retrieve the most recent occupation, which is likely to therefore be inaccurate. For example, a person could come to police notice in 2014 with the occupation of Administrator and then again in 2016 and the occupation was recorded as NHS employee. The system would retrieve both crimes as occurring with the victim having an occupation of NHS employee, which would be incorrect. The opposite is also possible; a person could come to police notice in 2015 with an occupation of NHS employee but in 2017, it's recorded as Administrator. In this example, neither crime would be retrieved from the search for a victim with an occupation of NHS employee. It is also possible for the victim's occupation to not be recorded at all, which obviously would not be retrieved from a search.

As such, in order to accurately provide you with any relevant information, a manual review of the offences you have mentioned above, for the time period of 2019 to date would be required. This figure would be in the thousands and would therefore, by far exceed the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information 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.

Under Section 16 of the Act, unfortunately I am unable to provide any advice for how you could refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12. Even if you reduce the time period, it is unlikely to reduce the number of crimes enough to make a manual review possible. In regards to question 4, you are more than welcome to re-submit this question again as a new request, but, please bear in mind that further exemptions may still apply.

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