



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0812

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_0812

On 04/09/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please see below a freedom of information request from the NSPCC. Receipt of you receiving the request and a reference number would be appreciated. If you are minded to refuse the request on time and cost grounds, please get in touch in order to discuss what data you may be able to provide.

- a) The total number of recorded offences of indecent images (still or moving) of children and prohibited images of children for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- b) The number of recorded offences which related to pseudo images of children.
- c) The total number of recorded offences where an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated child abuse image was detected.
- d) For each offence for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 please break it down by the platform used to commit the offence where known using the following key word search: Snapchat, Facebook/Messenger, Instagram, WhatsApp, X/Twitter, Kik, TikTok, YouTube, Discord, Skype, Facetime, Roblox, Oculus, VR, Metaverse, Only Fans, Signal, iCloud, iMessage, Dropbox, Mega, Patreon, other social media or messaging site, other cloud storage site and online gaming.

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

As per the clarification email sent to you on 04/09/2024, we are unable to answer question C without engaging Section 12 of the FOI Act – cost refusal. As agreed with you, this question has been omitted and the below response is based on the searches that can be conducted for questions A, B and D only.

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.

A search has been conducted of the Crime Recording System to identify substantiated crimes recorded between 01/04/2023 and 31/03/2024 where the offence is recorded as:

- Take/ make / distribute indecent photographs or pseudo- photographs, of children
- Possession of an indecent or pseudo indecent photo of a child

Please see the tables below for the breakdowns requested.

A) & B)

Offence	Total
Possess indecent/pseudo photo of child	23
Take/make indecent photo of children	577
Total	600

D)

A review of the records has been conducted to identify those records where one of the social media platforms, or the term “social media” is contained within the MO. 187 records have been identified. The results have been broken down below.

Please note that more than one platform can be recorded on one crime record, hence the totals do not match.

Offence/Social Media Platform	Total
Possess indecent/pseudo photo of child	
Facebook	1
Social Media	1
Take/make indecent photo of children	
Snapchat	100
Facebook	6
Messenger	2
Instagram	33
Whatsapp	14

X/Twitter	6
Kik	5
TikTok	7
YouTube	7
Discord	7
Facetime	7
Dropbox	2
Social Media	45
Total	243

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