



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_24_0920

E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 07/11/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_0920

On 10/10/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

How many arrests occurred between 12/03/24 and 15/03/24 in Cheltenham?

Do you collect data for arrests made at Cheltenham Racecourse? If so, can you share the past 5 years' arrest figures?

How many police officers were deployed to Cheltenham Racecourse for the Cheltenham Festival this year (12/03/24 - 15/03/24)?

How much money does providing these police officers cost the force?

How many incidents of drug confiscations occurred at Cheltenham racecourse in the past five years?

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

In order to identify the number of drug confiscations a search of Stop and Search records would be required. Unfortunately there is no way to retrieve this information by way of electronic searches. We can identify the area of 'Cheltenham' but we cannot extract data specifically for Cheltenham Racecourse.

The only way of trying to determine whether any relevant information is held and to retrieve that information would be to manually review each Stop and Search record where the location is Cheltenham. This would involve the review of nearly 3,000 records and would therefore take far longer than 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.

Providing Information Outside of the Act

By way of assistance and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, we have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. We trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

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 completed on our Arrest Recording system for the dates requested above.

1 There were 5 arrests made at Cheltenham Racecourse between the dates of 12/03/2024 – 15/03/2024

2 The table below only shows the months and years were an arrest took place at your requested address. Therefore if the month/year is missing that is because there were no arrests.

Month/Year	Arrest count
Mar-20	3
Aug-21	1
Mar-22	1
Jul-22	1
Mar-23	2
May-23	1
Nov-23	1
Mar-24	3

3 The cost to the force is £153,764

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