



Your reference: n/a
Our reference: FOI_24_0976
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 26/11/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0976

On 30/10/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am making this request for information about crimes against delivery drivers under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. How many crimes have been recorded where the victim's occupation was logged as 'Courier', 'Deliveryman', 'Delivery driver' or 'van delivery agent' between 2019 and 2024? Please note that if you do not use these specific terms, I am satisfied with any results where the victim is stated as being a delivery worker.

Please break the results down by:

- a) Month (e.g. January 2019, February 2019, etc).
 - b) Victim occupation term
 - c) The crime committed (for example: robbery, violence with injury, violence without injury, etc.)
 - d) Location
2. In how many of these cases was a suspect arrested? Please again break this down by the categories stated above.
 3. If possible and within the time and cost limit afforded to a search, please provide the incident report for each case.

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

Unfortunately, it's not possible to electronically search for the information you have requested.

It's not possible to identify the occupation of a victim from electronic searches of the crime records. This is because the crime record is independent of the occupation field, which appears on the Person Record. Occupation is a non-mandatory free text field and may be updated each time an individual comes into contact with the police. Electronic searches could only extract the occupation recorded on the system at the time the search is made, if the field has been completed. For example a victim may have come into contact with the police in 2006 when their occupation was recorded and then again in 2014 when the occupation field was updated. The occupation then showing on the system would not be correct for the 2006 crime. Equally a victim's occupation may not be recorded at all on initial contact but recorded at a later stage following subsequent contact with the police. It would be incorrect to link the occupation showing on the system to the earlier crime.

The only way of trying to determine whether any information is held relating to the occupation of Delivery Person and to retrieve any relevant information would be to undertake a manual review of all crime records and the corresponding person records of the victims of those crimes. This would take far more 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.

Under Section 16, duty to assist, I can confirm that a free text search can be conducted of the MOs of crimes. The MOs are essentially a precis of what the victim has reported to police regarding the alleged offence. If such precis' include that the victim is a delivery driver, this may return relevant crimes.

If such a search would still be useful, please submit a new FOI Request to foi@gloucestershire.police.uk confirming which terms you would like us to search.

Please note that the crime data does not link statistically to the arrest data and therefore it will only be possible to retrieve the number of offenders (as opposed to suspects) are linked to any crimes retrieved from such a search.

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