



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_24_1038
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 16/12/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_1038

On 19/11/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

It relates to domestic homicides, where the victim was known to the police.

Please note there are three parts to my request, although parts one and two contain multiple sub-questions.

I have attached a spreadsheet to support you in your response.

1 a) From 01/01/2019 to 19/11/24, how many domestic homicide offences, where a woman was killed by her current or former male partner have been recorded by your police force?

1 b) In each of these domestic homicide offences, how many victims were flagged with a domestic violence marker associated with:

- Their name
- And/or address
- And/or telephone number
- Current or former male partner

1 c) of those deaths, how many were investigated as possible homicides?

1 d) of those which were investigated as possible homicides, how many arrests were made of the woman's current or former male partner?

1 e) of those partners or former partners who were arrested, how many were subsequently charged with her murder?

1 f) How many were charged with her manslaughter?

1 g) How many were charged with a violent offence or coercive control in relation to that victim following her death?

2 a) From 01/01/2019 to 19/11/24, how many women whose deaths were reported to your police force as sudden and unexplained had a police record of domestic abuse associated with:

- Their name
- And/or address
- And/or telephone number
- Current or former male partner

2 b) of those deaths, how many were investigated as possible homicides?

2 c) of those which were investigated as possible homicides, how many arrests were made of the woman's current or former male partner?

2 d) of those partners or former partners who were arrested, how many were subsequently charged with her murder?

2 e) How many were charged with her manslaughter?

2 f) How many were charged with a violent offence or coercive control in relation to that victim following her death?

3 a) From 01/01/2019 to 19/11/24, how many police officers in your force have been arrested following an allegation of domestic violence?

3 b) How many were subsequently charged?

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

Unfortunately there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. The only way of trying to determine whether any relevant information is held regarding the number of reports made of sudden and unexplained death that are linked to domestic abuse is to manually review each incident where the result code is Sudden Death. A manual review would then be required to determine whether the victim was female or not, if the cause of death is recorded within the incident and if any third parties were involved.

An initial search of the incident recording system for Sudden Death incidents recorded in the last 12 months has identified over 900 records that would need to be reviewed which would obviously 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.

If you still require a response to Q3 please submit a new FOI request. Please note that does not mean the data required will be available/provided.

Searches were already conducted of the crime recording system regarding Q1. Please see the results below.

- 1a) 4
- 1b) 0
- 1c) 4
- 1d) 4
- 1e) 2
- 1f) 0
- 1g) 0

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