



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_24_1078

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/12/2024

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_1078

On 27/11/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Good afternoon,

Under the FOI Act, please provide me with the following information related to non-crime hate incidents:

The number of NCHIs recorded for the following periods:

November 1 2019 – October 31 2020

November 1 2020 – October 31 2021

November 1 2021 – October 31 2022

November 1 2022 – October 31 2023

November 1 2023 – October 31 2024

For the final period (November 1 2023 to October 31 2024), please provide a copy of the log by the force of all non-crime incidents including summary and outcome. Please redact any personal data from the records.

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

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 was completed on our incident recording system for the dates of 01/11/2019 – 31/10/2024 where a hate tag is present but does not have a crime number.

The results are as follows:

Year	Total
2019	292
2020	256
2021	211
2022	161
2023	173
2024	273
Total	1366

With regards to providing copies of the incident logs from 01/11/2023 – 31/10/2024 this information is exempt under Section 40 of the Act.

The Incident Recording System is largely free text and essentially records the caller's report of a potential offence. A member of the public would expect this data to be recorded (processed) according to the [Principles of Article 5 of the Data Protection Act](#). As such as member of the public would at least expect their data to be kept confidentially and fairly. It would not be a regular person's expectation that details of their report of a potential crime to the police would be placed into the public domain via an FOI request.

As explained above, the details of an Incident Report are recorded using the words and opinions of the caller. There will be very clear personal data e.g. name, date of birth, telephone number etc. recorded on the incident. However it's also highly likely that further information within the call log, together with information that may be in the public domain or known to third parties, would amount to personal data.

Given the very sensitive nature of allegations of hate offences, it would be very inappropriate to risk disclosing any information that could identify individuals. Although it's theoretically possible to review every incident report and redact any potentially identifiable information, this would inevitably render the resultant information without value.

Section 17 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.

With regard to the disclosure of redacted copies of incident reports, the following exemption applies:

Section 40(2) Personal Information

Section 40(2) applies to third party personal data. This would not be released under the Freedom of Information Act unless there is a strong public interest. The disclosure of any information which could lead to the identification of an individual would breach the Data Protection Principles contained within the Data Protection Act 2018, namely the first principle which states that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals

This exemption is absolute and class based therefore I am not required to apply either the public interest test or harm test in disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

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