



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_24_1121
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 14/01/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_24_1121

On 12/12/2024 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear Gloucestershire Constabulary,

I'd like to make a request under the Freedom Of Information Act.

I'd like information relating to the number of times an officer has used a firearm (i.e. shot) against an out of control dog. I'd also be interested in how many times a Taser has been used, however, records relating to a firearm are of more importance.

I'd be grateful to receive the figures for the last ten years, if possible, beginning with the most recent year (2024) broken down by month. In addition I'd like to know the breed and any other details about the dog and whether a human or animal had been injured by said dog and whether the incident and use of weapon was in public or private place.

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

Unfortunately there is no central register for the information you have requested, in order to identify and retrieve the information you have requested a manual review will need to be conducted over several different systems, in order to ascertain whether a firearm or Taser has been used. This manual review would exceed the 18 hours as prescribed by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the 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, a search can be conducted just for the Taser usage on dogs, however the recording of this data is only available digitally from 2022.

Please note that officers do not record on the from the breed of dog as this is not a requirement and any injuries to humans or other animals is also not recorded.

If this would assist you with your search please resubmit a new FOI 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