



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0005

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 16/01/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0005

On 03/01/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

- Please provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.
 - How many injuries from dog attacks of any breed have there been in your police force area in the calendar year of 2023 and 2024?
 - How many injuries from dog attacks from XL bullies have there been in your police force area in the calendar year of 2023 and 2024?

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.

Gloucestershire Constabulary contacted you to inform you that information regarding injuries sustained is not separately recorded and cannot be provided without a manual review of records to determine if the information is held.

A alternative search for crimes recorded where the offence of "Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether

or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog is present.” was suggested instead.

You were also advised that the breed is also only identifiable via a manual review of records, which would engage the Section 12 refusal due to the number of records held. You were asked to confirm if a search of just the number of crimes recorded would be suitable.

Your response stated:

- Thanks for getting back to me about this. Can you please go forward with just the number of crimes recorded please?

A search was then conducted of Gloucestershire Constabulary’s Crime recording system for all substantiated crimes of “Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog is present.” were recorded between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2024; please see the table below

Year	Total
2023	367
2024	345
Total	712

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,

