



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_25_0034

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 04/02/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0034

On 08/01/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing with a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, I would like to ask the following:

- In the financial years 2022/23, 23/24, and 24/25 (Up to 08.01.25), how many officers, PCSOs and support staff were physically assaulted by members of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role.

- Of those who were assaulted, how many required hospital treatment as a result of their injuries? Please provide a breakdown by role for the same financial years.

- How many days of medical leave were granted to officers, PCSOs and support staff owing to injuries sustained after an assault by a member of the public? Please provide a breakdown by role for the same financial years.

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

Unfortunately, it is not possible to electronically retrieve the information you have requested regarding the breakdown of the role, whether hospital treatment was required and the number of days of medical leave were granted after sustaining injuries after the assault. In order to identify and retrieve the requested information a manual review of 797 crime records where the offence of Assault or assault by beating on a constable and Assault or assault by beating on an emergency worker (except a constable) is recorded, cross referenced with HR records to ascertain their role, and determine whether they have had any medical leave following the assaults. A manual review would also be required of the 797 crime records to ascertain whether the victim required hospital treatment.

This manual review would far exceed the 18 hours as prescribed by Section 12 of 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.

Initial searches were conducted of the Crime Recording System for substantiated crimes recorded between 01/04/2022 – 08/01/2025 where the offence is listed as the following:

008/73 – Assault or assault by beating on a constable

008/73 - Assault or assault by beating on an emergency worker (except a constable)

The results are as follows:

Financial Year	Total
2022/23	282
2023/24	283
2024/25	232
Total	797

Section 16 – unable to assist

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timescale but still provide meaningful information.

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