



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_25_0105
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 25/02/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0105

On 28/01/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

The number of arson offences reported to the service in the past three calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024). Please note that I require data related to arson (damage or destruction of property with fire) only, and not criminal damage generally.

Please break the results down by the following:

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- Month and year of the report (e.g. January 2022, February 2022, etc.)
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-
- Location (As specific as is reasonably possible)
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-
- If the investigation led to an arrest (yes/no/ongoing)
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-
-
- If a suspect was formally charged with the crime (yes/no/ongoing)
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-
- If the crime caused injuries to a victim or victims (yes/no)
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- The age and gender (if known) of the offender
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How many suspects were repeat offenders? By 'repeat offender', I refer to having been arrested or suspected of arson within the last five years.

Please provide the response in Excel/Sheets format where possible.

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 search for the information you have requested regarding if the crime caused any injuries to the victim/s and whether the investigation led to an arrest, a manual review would need to be conducted of 1,219 offences which engages 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:

- Determining whether information is held
- Locating it
- Retrieving it
- 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, if you omit the questions regarding the injuries to the Victim/s and linked arrest, we will be able to provide statistical data.

If this would assist, please submit a new 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