



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0198

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 05/06/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0198

On 17/02/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. The number of crimes reports where a child under the age of 18 was in possession of a weapon on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

Within this - please provide:

- a. Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)
- b. Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)
- c. Breakdown of gender (male and female)

2. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 has committed the following offences on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for each offence for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

- a) Common Assault & Battery
- b) ABH (s47)
- b) GBH (s20)
- c) Wounding with or without a weapon (s18)

Within this - please provide

- a. Breakdown of the number of victims who was a pupil
- b. Breakdown of the number of victims who was a member of staff

- c. Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)
- d. Breakdown of gender (male and female)

3. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 was threatening someone with a weapon on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

Within this - please provide:

- a. Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)
- b. Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)
- c. Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary does hold some relevant information, however the data requested for Q2a & 2b is not information that would be recorded in a format that could be extracted electronically, therefore a manual review of all relevant records is required to determine if the information is held. It has been identified that there are over 600 records relevant to your request that require manual review, which would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

You should therefore consider this to be a refusal notice under Section 17 of the Act for this part of your request.

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.

Section 16 – Duty to assist

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, I have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. I trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Q1.

A search of the crime recording system has been conducted for the offence of "Possession of other offensive weapon on school/further education premises".

This has returned 6 relevant records. I can confirm that all offenders were male, however due to such low numbers, a breakdown of the age will not be provided in efforts to avoid the identification of an individual.

The weapons recorded are:

2019

- 1x Butterfly knife
- 1x Knuckleduster knife
- 1x Knife
- 1x Craft knife

2023

- 1x Metal nail file
- 1x Screwdriver

Q2. For this question, a search of the crime recording system was carried out for all substantiated crimes where the offence is one of the following:

- Common assault and battery
- Assault occasioning actual bodily harm
- Malicious Wounding:- wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (Sec. 20)
- Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Sec.18)

Filters were then applied to the data to identify records where the MO Code for "School" and MO Code for "College/University" have been applied and where the Knife Crime tag has also been added.

2c) Age of offender at the time of the offence:

Age	Year				Total
	2014	2019	2023	2024	
8		1			1
10	4				4
11	3	1	3	2	9
12	2	3	2	2	9
13	3		5	2	10
14	5	2	3	9	19
15	4	2	6	4	16
16	2	1	2	1	6
17	1	1			2

Unknown	27	147	215	149	538
Total	51	158	236	169	614

2d) Gender of offender:

Gender	Year				Total
	2014	2019	2023	2024	
Female	1	3	7	5	16
Male	23	8	14	15	60
Unspecified				1	1
Unknown	27	147	215	148	537
Total	51	158	236	169	614

Q3. A search of the crime recording system has been conducted for the offence of "Threaten with an offensive weapon on school/further education premises". This has returned 0 (zero) results.

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