



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0212

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/03/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0212

On 20/02/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

The NPCC has revealed that between 'February and September 2024, policing has seized over 4,586 suspected S1 dogs throughout England and Wales.':

[Police seize more than 4500 XL Bully dogs since ban](#)

1. Please provide the number of S1 dogs you seized between February and September 2024.
2. Please provide the number of dogs you kennelled in each month between February 2024 to September 2024.

The NPCC has also revealed that it can cost up to £1,000 per month to kennel a dog.

3. Please provide the total amount you spent kennelling dogs in each month between February 2024 and September 2024.
4. Please provide the total amounts you spent on (i) food and (ii) care in respect of kennelled dogs in each month between February 2024 and September 2024.
5. Please provide the names of all businesses/organisations you used to kennel dogs between February 2024 and September 2024.

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

1. I can confirm that the Constabulary seized 15 S1 dogs in the time period requested.

2. The number of dogs that were kennelled in the time period were as follows:

Month	No. of Dogs
February	15
March	24
April	20
May	23
June	26
July	27
August	28
September	29

3. & 4. Please see the below costs of kennelling dogs including food and care but excluding vets fees:

Month	No. of Dogs
February	£14,017.99
March	£15,623.19
April	£21,600.00
May	£21,810.74
June	£21,996.63
July	£22,386.25
August	£22,409.16
September	£24,384.22

5. This information is exempt under Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 17 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.

The following the following exemptions apply:

Section 38(1)(a) & (b) – Health & Safety

The above exemption is qualified and prejudice based therefore both a Public Interest Test and Harm Test is required.

Harm Test

The Constabulary has a responsibility and a duty of care to protect the safety of the kennel providers and the members of staff who work in these locations, and must be conscious of the harm, distress and damage that could be caused to not only the staff

but the physical kennel facilities if details were released into the public domain and were made available to those who wish to disrupt the service provided. To release the details of contracted kennel provider could cause significant harm by subjecting staff to threats and verbal abuse, even potentially endangering their safety and the safety of the animals in their care, causing distress to the animals.

Public Interest Test

Reason for disclosure

If this information was placed into the public domain, it could provide further transparency to the community regarding the welfare of the animals placed within their care and provides transparency regarding the use of public funds.

Reasons against disclosure

The release of this information would cause a loss of confidence between the constabulary and the kennel providers as the constabulary has a duty of care for their wellbeing, and if this information was to be released it would endanger the physical safety the staff who work in these locations by subjecting them to threats and verbal abuse and destruction to the kennels themselves. This would result in causing a welfare issue with the animals who are residing in the kennels. It would also have an effect on the future use of alternative kennels and services being provided to the constabulary if other providers do not trust that their details, i.e. staff and facilities are protected.

Balance Test

The strongest reason for disclosure is that it could provide the community with information regarding the use of public funds and the transparency of the welfare of the animals. It is deemed that this is unlikely to outweigh the reasons against disclosure as the harm which would be caused to the kennel provider's trust in the constabulary would be far greater than the transparency of the welfare and the use of the public funds. Therefore the balance test falls on the side on non-disclosure.

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