



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0242

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 14/03/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0242

On 28/02/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Could you please tell me how many serving police officers within the Gloucester Constabulary declared a "conflict of interest" into police crime investigations for the following months: (numbers by month please)

June 2024, July 2024, August 2024 and September 2024.

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

Unfortunately, there is no way of electronically searching for the information you have requested.

There is no central register of any potentially declared conflicts of interest with regard to criminal investigations. As per the Constabulary's [Conflict of Interest Policy](#), a police officer is obliged to inform their manager if they perceive a potential conflict of interest with regard to an investigation and any decision for the officer to be part of the investigation or not must be recorded. However, any such decisions would be recorded on the relevant incident or crime.

Therefore in order to ascertain if any such conflicts of interest were declared from June to September 2024, a manual review of all investigations would be required. Given that the Constabulary recorded over 16,000 crimes in this time period, this would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours 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.

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