



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0299

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 10/04/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0299

On 14/03/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I would like to know how many children/teenagers (anyone 18 or under) were stopped/caught carrying knives or similarly logged weapons in the last decade?

Please could I have the figures broken down into each year (so 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 or up to most recent data).

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

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.

A search has been conducted of Stop & Search data in order to identify the number of people aged between 0 and 17 years who were stopped by Police for the purposes of a Section 1 PACE, Offensive Weapons search. Please note that information is only held as far back as 01/01/2017.

Please see the annual breakdown below;

Year	Total
2017	38
2018	48
2019	72
2020	75
2021	114
2022	116
2023	117
2024	166
Total	746

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