



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_25_0374
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 02/05/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0374

On 02/04/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear Information Governance Officer

This is a request for information according to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It relates to children in domestic abuse incidents. Since the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, children are considered victims of domestic abuse if he/she "sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, the abuse," and is related to the victim and/or perpetrator.

According to research conducted by the Safer Warwickshire Serious Violence Prevention strategy, between 2020-2023, 12% of domestic abuse incidents where a child was linked to the offence involved "violence with injury." One third (36.5%) of children were aged under-five at the time of the first recorded violence with injury incident. The average age of a child witnessing violence in the home was just over seven years old.

Please can you provide the following information. Please note there are three parts to my request.

(1)

Between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2024, how many domestic abuse incidents did your force record where a child was linked to the offence?

By domestic abuse, I mean an incident between two individuals aged 18+ and domestic abuse can include emotional, sexual, physical and financial abuse.

(2)

How many of the children linked to the offence were:
Under-5

6-12 years
12 years and over

(if providing this data takes my request over the cost limit, please confine your response to Questions 1 and 3).

(3)

In how many of the domestic abuse incidents in Q1 did the offence involve “violence with injury”?

Clarification was received from yourself with the following:

I would like to update the request I sent earlier today as a few forces have rightly come back to ask for a more specific definition of the data required.

Please accept my apologies for not getting this right in the first instance and I hope that by replying so shortly after the initial request, it won't be too awkward!

I would like to request data on "**Recorded Crimes**: These are created from an incident above and are crimes that require recording / investigating"

I have updated my request in red below.

Thank you for your understanding and your patience.

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

Unfortunately, it is not electronically possible to search for the information requested. In order to identify and retrieve the requested information a manual review of over 28,936 crimes where a Domestic Abuse (DA) tag has been applied and to review the crimes to see if a child were linked to the offence. This manual review would exceed the 18 hours as 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