



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_25_0518

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Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 29/05/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0518

On 15/05/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1) How many non-crime hate incidents have been recorded by your force in the (a) 2023 and (b) 2024 calendar year?

NOTE: I understand non-crime hate incidents are recorded through the 'Hate Crime Operational Guidance (HCOG)' issued by the College of Policing. According to the guidance, a non-crime hate incident is an incident which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards one of the following: disability; race; religion; transgender identity and sexual orientation.

2) In relation to the non-crime hate incidents recorded in 2024 please provide a breakdown by the hate motivation? Please provide this using the categories you use for this task, however, I would expect that some or all of the following would be included: Alternative subculture, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender, anti-semitic, asylum seeker/refugee, gypsy/traveller, islamophobic and migrant worker.

3) In relation to all non-crime hate incidents that were logged by your force in the calendar month of September 2024 could you please provide me with (i) the exact nature of the actions or exact words used, (ii) where it was carried out (either a location such as school, workplace, street etc, or a specific social media platform/internet, and (iii) the age of the perpetrator if known.

NOTE: In Question 3 I am content for any details to be redacted so that the identity of the victim and perpetrator are not disclosed, but I would like as much detail about the

circumstances of the incident as possible.

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

Unfortunately for question 2 there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. Whilst the number of Non-Crime Hate Incidents can be retrieved, and identify those with a hate tag, we are unable to breakdown the data further by which characteristic of hate the incident is (i.e. religion, race etc.). Therefore the only way to identify any relevant information would be to manually review all relevant records. This would involve the review of over 2,200 records and would therefore take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the 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.

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

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.

Please see below the total number of non-crime hate incidents for 2023 & 2024

2023 - 197

2024 - 312

Section 16 – unable to assist

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