



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_25_0525

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 10/06/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0525

On 19/05/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Hope you are well. I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

- The number of criminal investigations opened by your police force into women on suspicion of illegally ending a pregnancy every year from 2016 to 2024
- Please provide a single figure for each year (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024), taking the date as the year the inquiry was opened
- Please also break down these yearly figures into 'no further action' OR 'charge made' OR 'investigation ongoing'
- Please do not include more than one entry where the same individual has been investigated more than once on suspicion of illegally ending their pregnancy

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.

Following receipt of your request, initial searches were conducted of the Crime Recording System for substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2016 – 31/12/2024, where the offence was listed as one of the following:

- 14/1 – Administering drugs or using instruments to procure abortion
- 14/2 – Procuring drugs etc. to cause abortion
- 4/3 – Child destruction
- 15/00 – Concealment of birth

The results are as follows:

1 crime where the outcome was charge in 2023.

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