



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0543

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 17/06/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0543

On 27/05/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Since January 1 2024, please disclose the logs for every incident involving unidentified flying object/unidentified aerial phenomena recorded by your force.
Also please disclose the logs that feature at least one of these search terms: 'UFO', 'Alien', 'UAP' and 'spaceship'

For each incident log, please disclose:

- * The date and time the incident was reported.
- * The general location it was recorded (I.E. the city/town/village)
- * The incident log, exactly as it was recorded by the force, redacting any identifiable information which may otherwise prohibit disclosure. For example 'Female caller named (REDACTED) reports seeing eight flashing lights hovering above his property in (REDACTED) street before a female was beamed into the sky'.'

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

Unfortunately there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. The only way of trying to determine whether any relevant information is held and to retrieve that information would be to manually review each incident recorded. Considering the constabulary records approximately 500 incidents per day, this would 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.

Section 16 – duty 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.

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

An initial search of the incident recording system has been conducted for entries which contain the terms 'UFO', 'Alien', 'UAP' and 'spaceship' recorded since 01/01/2024 to the date of your request has identified 218 records. Please be advised that these records would still need to be reviewed for relevance to your request.

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