



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_25_0554

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Date: 01/07/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0554

On 29/05/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please disclose, since January 1 2023, the use of out-of-court disposals for the following offences.

- * Possessing indecent images (any category)
- * Making indecent images (any category)
- * Distributing indecent images (any category)

For each of those three categories, please breakdown each offence by the method of disposal.

For example, how many were issued a caution, how many issued with a Community Resolution Order, and how many received NFA.

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.

I can confirm that a search has been conducted for crimes recorded from 01/01/2023 to 30/04/2025 whereby the following offences were recorded:

086/02 – Take / make / distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs, of children

086/10 – Possession of an indecent or pseudo indecent photo of a child

The results broken down by year, offence and outcome are as follows:

Offence/Outcome	2023	2024	2025	Total
Possess indecent/pseudo photo of child	25	28	11	64
01 - Charged/Summons	5	5	1	11
04 - Taken into consideration		1		1
12 - Prosecution prevented: suspect too ill		1		1
14 - Evidential difficulties: suspect not identified; victim does not support further action	2			2
15 - Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim supports action	13	9		22
16 - Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim does not support further action		2		2
18 - Investigation complete: no suspect identified			1	1
20 - Action undertaken by another body/agency		1	1	2
21 - Further investigation to support formal action not in the public interest	3	1		4
Unknown	2	8	8	18
Take/make indecent photo of children	591	520	192	1303
01 - Charged/Summons	58	35	3	96
02 - Youth Caution	2			2
03 - Adult Caution		1		1
08 - Community Resolution	10	3	2	15
10 - Not in public interest (Police)	1	1		2
11 - Prosecution prevented: suspect under age	13	7	2	22
12 - Prosecution prevented: suspect too ill	1	2	2	5
13 - Prosecution prevented: victim/key witness dead/too ill	1			1
14 - Evidential difficulties: suspect not identified; victim does not support further action	4	5		9
15 - Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim supports action	53	83	12	148
16 - Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim does not support further action	29	22	15	66
18 - Investigation complete: no suspect identified	37	48	5	90
20 - Action undertaken by another body/agency	9	28	6	43
21 - Further investigation to support formal action not in the public interest	366	255	53	674
22 - Diversionary		6	26	32
Unknown	7	24	66	97
Total	616	548	203	1367

Given the timescale of the data, there will clearly be some investigations that have not yet concluded and therefore the above results are subject to change.

Further information relating to the descriptions of the outcomes can be found via the following link:

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