



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI\_25\_0556

E-mail: FOI

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Direct dial: 01452 754304

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Date: 18/06/2025

Dear

**Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI\_25\_0556**

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

1. From 2019 to the most recent data available, how many crimes were logged by your police force where a bow or crossbow was recorded as being an element in the offence? Please provide a yearly breakdown in a table (Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the phrases "bow", "bow and arrow", "crossbow", "cross bow" and "cross-bow".
2. From 2019 to the most recent data available, how many crimes were logged by your police force where an air rifle, airsoft gun or bb gun was recorded as being an element in the offence? Please provide a yearly breakdown in a table (Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the phrases "BB Gun", "BB Pistol", "BB Rifle", "Airsoft gun", "Airsoft pistol", "air rifle", "air pistol", "air gun", "pellet rifle", "pellet pistol" and "pellet gun".
3. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 1 that are 'linked' to bows or crossbows by its mention in the MO for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please provide this broken down by Home Office offence group and subgroup.
4. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 2 that are 'linked' to air rifles, airsoft guns or bb guns by their mention in the MO for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please provide this broken down by Home Office offence group and subgroup.

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.

A search was completed on all substantiated crimes recorded between the dates of 01.01.2019 – 29.05.2025 where the following keywords were present within the MO.

Bow  
Bow and arrow  
Crossbow  
Cross bow  
Cross-bow  
BB gun  
BB Pistol  
BB Rifle  
Airsoft gun  
Airsoft Pistol  
Air rifle  
Air pistol  
Air gun  
Pellet pistol  
Pellet gun

Please be advised that although the words are present within the MO, this does not necessarily mean that a weapon was used in the commission of the offence. Please also be advised that the breakdown of the year denotes when the crime was recorded, which is not necessarily the date of the offence; the offence may have taken place at an earlier time, i.e., a historical offence.

Please note the data for Q1 & 2 are based on a count of weapons mentioned within the crime MO. Q3 & 4 is a count of crime records only broken down by offence.

The totals from Q1 & 2 will not correlate to Q3 & 4 because there are occasions where more than one weapon is recorded on an individual crime record.

1

| Weapon        | Year |      |      |      |      |      |      | Total |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|               | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |       |
| bow           |      | 1    | 2    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 4     |
| bow and arrow | 1    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 0    | 5     |

|           |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|-----------|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Cross bow |   | 3 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 25 |
| Total     | 1 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 34 |

2

| Weapon     | Year |      |      |      |      |      |      | Total |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|            | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |       |
| Air gun    | 5    | 2    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 5    | 1    | 18    |
| Air pistol | 4    | 1    | 0    | 3    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 9     |
| Air rifle  | 11   | 20   | 21   | 20   | 19   | 7    | 6    | 104   |
| BB gun     | 14   | 18   | 11   | 18   | 31   | 20   | 12   | 124   |
| Pellet gun | 4    | 1    | 4    | 3    | 3    | 8    | 1    | 24    |
| Total      | 38   | 42   | 37   | 46   | 55   | 40   | 21   | 279   |

3

| Offence                                                                             | Year |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|                                                                                     | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | Total |
| Affray                                                                              |      |      |      |      | 1    | 1    |      | 2     |
| Burglary non dwelling                                                               |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Causing, permitting or failing to prevent unnecessary suffering of protected animal |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Common assault&battery                                                              |      | 1    | 1    | 3    |      |      |      | 5     |
| Crim damage £5000+                                                                  |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      | 1     |
| Criminal damage to £5000                                                            | 1    |      | 1    |      |      | 1    |      | 3     |
| Engage in controlling/ coercive behaviour in an intimate/family relationship        |      |      |      | 1    |      | 1    |      | 2     |
| Intent harassment etc                                                               |      |      | 1    |      | 1    |      |      | 2     |
| Malicious communications                                                            |      | 1    | 1    |      |      |      |      | 2     |
| Possess weapon w/out lawful excuse                                                  |      |      |      | 2    |      | 1    |      | 4     |
| Put people in fear of violence                                                      |      | 1    |      | 1    |      |      |      | 2     |
| Stalking involving fear of Violence                                                 |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      | 1     |
| Theft from m/v                                                                      |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      | 1     |
| Threats to kill                                                                     |      |      | 1    | 2    |      | 2    | 1    | 6     |
| Wound w/intent GBH                                                                  |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      | 1     |

|                                    |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Possess cocaine w/i supply class A |   |   |   | 1  |   |   |   | 1  |
| Total                              | 1 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 32 |

4

| Offence                                                                             | Year |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|                                                                                     | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | Total |
| Assault occasioning ABH                                                             | 3    | 3    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 8    | 2    | 28    |
| Assault of an emergency worker                                                      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      | 1     |
| Assist offender e/way offences                                                      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      | 1     |
| Burglary dwelling                                                                   | 1    | 2    | 1    |      | 1    |      | 2    | 7     |
| Burglary non dwelling                                                               | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Causing, permitting or failing to prevent unnecessary suffering of protected animal |      |      |      |      | 3    | 1    | 2    | 6     |
| Common assault&battery                                                              | 3    | 1    | 1    | 7    | 7    | 7    | 1    | 27    |
| Crim damage £5000+                                                                  | 4    | 2    |      |      | 1    | 2    | 3    | 12    |
| Criminal damage to £5000                                                            | 17   | 21   | 21   | 15   | 18   | 7    | 3    | 102   |
| Cruelty to/neglect of children                                                      | 1    |      | 1    |      |      |      |      | 2     |
| Engage in controlling/ coercive behaviour in an intimate/family relationship        |      |      | 1    | 1    | 4    |      | 1    | 7     |
| Fear/ provocation of violence                                                       |      | 4    | 2    |      | 1    | 1    | 1    | 9     |
| Harassment etc                                                                      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Harassment no violence                                                              | 1    | 1    |      |      |      |      |      | 2     |
| Have article blade/point -public place                                              | 2    |      |      |      |      |      |      | 2     |
| Intent harassment etc                                                               | 1    |      | 2    |      |      |      |      | 3     |
| Intentional strangulation                                                           |      |      |      |      |      | 2    |      | 2     |
| Kidnapping                                                                          |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Malicious communications                                                            |      |      | 1    | 1    | 2    | 1    |      | 5     |
| Obtain grp1 firearm etc no cert                                                     |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      | 1     |
| Poss grp1 f/arm w/i cause fear of violence                                          | 2    | 1    |      | 6    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 12    |
| Poss grp3 f/arm w/i cause fear of violence                                          |      |      |      | 1    | 1    | 2    |      | 4     |

|                                             |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|---------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Possess cocaine w/i supply class A          |    |    |    | 1  |    |    |    | 1   |
| Possess grp1 f/arm during offence           |    |    | 1  |    | 1  |    |    | 2   |
| Possess grp1 firearm w/i injure             |    |    |    | 1  |    |    |    | 1   |
| Possess grp2 firearm when prohibited        |    | 1  |    |    |    |    |    | 1   |
| Possess grp3 firearm w/i Injure             |    |    | 1  |    |    |    | 1  | 2   |
| Possess offensive weapon -school premises   |    | 1  |    |    |    |    |    | 1   |
| Possess weapon w/out lawful excuse          |    |    |    | 2  |    |    |    | 2   |
| Put people in fear of violence              |    |    |    | 1  | 3  |    |    | 4   |
| Rape of female -13 by a male                |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1   |
| Rape of female 16+                          |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1   |
| Robbery                                     |    | 2  |    |    |    |    |    | 2   |
| Stalking involving fear of Violence         |    |    |    |    | 3  | 2  |    | 5   |
| Stalking involving serious alarm/distress   |    |    |    | 1  | 1  |    |    | 2   |
| Theft from m/v                              |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1  |    | 2   |
| Theft in dwelling not m/c ,meter            | 1  |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1   |
| Theft -unclassified                         |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1  | 2   |
| Threat to destroy / damage property         |    |    |    | 1  |    |    |    | 1   |
| Threaten with an offensive weapon in public |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1   |
| Threats to kill                             |    | 1  | 1  | 3  | 2  | 1  |    | 8   |
| Wound w/intent GBH                          |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1  | 2   |
| Total                                       | 38 | 42 | 37 | 46 | 55 | 40 | 20 | 278 |

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](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer  
Gloucestershire Constabulary