



Your reference: n/a

Our reference: FOI_25_0572

E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 16/06/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0572

On 03/06/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

For each calendar year from 2019, including 2025 to date:

1. The number of offences that were categorised as an acid attack or corrosive fluid offence, broken down by month.
2. The number of offences mentioned in question 1 that were recorded as Violent Offences within the category 'Violence Against the Person'.
3. The number of threats of acid attacks/corrosive fluid attacks against the person, broken down by month.
4. The ethnicity, age and gender of victims of the offences mentioned in question 1, broken down by calendar year.
5. The ethnicity, age and gender of victims of the offences mentioned in question 2, broken down by calendar year.
6. The ethnicity, age and gender of victims of the offences mentioned in question 3, broken down by calendar year.
7. The ethnicity, age and gender of suspects of the offences mentioned in question 1, broken down by calendar year.
8. The ethnicity, age and gender of suspects of the offences mentioned in question 2, broken down by calendar year.
9. The ethnicity, age and gender of suspects of the offences mentioned in question 3, broken down by calendar year.
10. Outcomes of the offences mentioned in 1, broken down by calendar year.
11. Outcomes of the offences mentioned in 2, broken down by calendar year.
12. Outcomes of the offences mentioned in 3, broken down by calendar year.

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

Unfortunately, it's not possible to electronically search for the information you have requested.

There is no specific offence relating to a threat of an acid attack. Such allegations would be recorded under one of the following offences:

8/72 – Malicious Communications

125/9 – Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress

125/11 – Fear or provocation of violence

In order to ascertain which crimes, that were recorded with these offences, related to a threat of an acid attack, each crime would need to be manually reviewed. As thousands of these crimes are recorded each year, this would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by Section 12 of 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.

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request relating to threat offences 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.

However, if you were to resubmit your request for just details of crimes recorded with the offence of 005/07 - Causing explosions, sending explosive substance or throwing corrosive fluids with intent to do grievous bodily harm, it will be possible to extract the relevant information. If this would still be useful, please submit a new FOI request to foi@gloucestershire.police.uk

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