



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0702

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 12/08/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0702

On 17/07/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Computer-Aided Dispatch

- 1) Please specify the name and version of the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) software currently deployed and actively utilised by your force.
- 2) Does the aforementioned CAD software incorporate functionality designed to identify the closest available unit to an incident location?
- 3) If such functionality exists, is it actively deployed and routinely utilised by your force in dispatch operations?
- 4) If such functionality exists, is your force aware of the methodology employed to calculate unit proximity (e.g., straight-line distance, travel distance, estimated travel time, or other algorithms)? Please specify the calculation method if known.

Response Officers

- 5) As of the most recent figures available, please specify the total Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) number of warranted police officers within your force. Additionally, please provide the effective date of these figures.
- 6) From the total number of warranted police officers specified in response to Question 5, please delineate the number of officers whose primary designated operational role is responding to emergency calls for service (commonly referred to as 'response officers').
- 7) With respect to the 'response officers' identified in response to Question 6, please provide the average number of such officers typically on duty at any given time. If disaggregated data is available for specific operational timeframes (e.g., peak demand periods, night shifts), kindly provide this breakdown.

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

1. SmartStorm v1.30
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. No information held
5. As of 31/07/2025 the FTE of Police Officers was 1344.71
6. Of those, 316.62 FTE were in a role or team where the term "Response" is within the name. Please note, this does not include student officers or Armed Response officers.
7. Exempt by virtue of Section 31

Section 17 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.

The exemption applied to the above is as follow:

- Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement

Section 31 is a qualified and prejudice-based exemption and as such, subject to a harm and public interest test which can be seen below

Harm

Release via the Freedom of Information Act is deemed a release into the public domain. Therefore, information that would allow criminals to accurately evaluate the capability of Gloucestershire Police will not be disclosed. Such detailed knowledge would allow criminals to take measures to target the force and undermine the Police service's ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime, which can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

Public Interest Test

Considerations Favouring Disclosure

There is a legitimate public interest in the public being satisfied that the Police are equipped to deliver services to the public when and where required, and therefore knowing the number of officers available per shift would satisfy the public that sufficient resources are available to respond to calls for service.

Considerations Favouring Non-Disclosure

The Police Service has a duty to deliver effective law enforcement ensuring that the prevention and detection of crime, apprehension or prosecution of offenders and administration of justice is carried out appropriately. There is also a duty to the safety and wellbeing of members of the public.

Disclosing information regarding the number of Officers per shift may reveal what resources are available, enabling those with criminal intent to determine police strength at any particular time, and therefore take action which could hinder the prevention and detection of crime. The release of this information could therefore provide a tactical

advantage to offenders which would negatively impact on public safety and undermine the policing purpose.

Balance Test

It is not in the public interest for operational capability to be compromised with the disclosure of resources at shift level.

Such a disclosure that would allow those with criminal intent the ability to build up a mosaic picture of force capabilities and resources which could be used to undermine law enforcement. This would not be in the public interest.

Disclosure is also not in the public interest as it places the community at increased unnecessary risk of harm and impacts on police resources. This is especially the case if additional resources need to be put in place to counter harm caused by an adverse FOIA request regarding police resources.

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