

Gloucestershire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
No.1 Waterwells, Waterwells Drive
Quedgeley, Gloucester. GL2 2AN
www.gloucestershire.police.uk



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0740

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 26/03/26

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0740

On 23/07/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

My Reference: F0049/240725

Pursuant to section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act"), I hereby request the disclosure of recorded information held by Gloucestershire Constabulary ("the Authority") concerning sexual offences that compromise passenger safety in relation to taxi, private hire vehicle (PHV), and Uber services.

This request is confined to sexual offences as defined by the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (including, inter alia, rape under section 1, assault by penetration under section 2, sexual assault under section 3, and causing sexual activity without consent under section 4), occurring within the Authority's territorial jurisdiction or where the Authority holds investigative or prosecutorial records, from 1 January 2023 to the present date (inclusive). The scope is limited to offences where the alleged perpetrator is a licensed taxi or PHV driver (including those affiliated with Uber or analogous platforms), and the incident is connected to the carriage of passengers (e.g., during a journey or in immediate proximity thereto).

In compliance with section 8(1) of the Act, this constitutes a valid request, and my details for correspondence are appended hereto.

To facilitate retrieval and obviate the challenges associated with non-mandatory free-text occupation fields (as elucidated in your response to FOI_25_0700), I respectfully suggest conducting the search utilising modus operandi (MO) codes or keywords within crime notes, such as "Taxi", "Taxi/PSV Driver", "PHV", "Uber", "Cab", or analogous terms, to identify pertinent incidents.

Kindly furnish the following information, anonymised and aggregated as requisite to adhere to the Data Protection Act 2018 and to preclude any exemption under section 40(2) of the Act:

- The aggregate number of reported incidents meeting the aforesaid criteria, delineated by calendar year (2023 to 2025, apportioned pro rata for the current annum).
- A classification of the offences reported, comprising sub-classifications (e.g., rape, sexual assault by touching, assault by penetration).

If feasible without invoking an exemption, kindly include a disaggregation by service category where Uber-affiliated PHV can be distinguished via the aforesaid MO codes or keywords; otherwise, aggregate across all taxi and PHV services.

Should any element of this request engage an exemption (e.g., section 12 regarding cost thresholds), I solicit advice and assistance under section 16 of the Act, including proposals to refine the request further (e.g., restricting the timeframe to 2024–2025 or limiting to specific sub-classifications such as rape and sexual assault).

The information is sought in electronic form (e.g., PDF or Excel) to the email address infra, within the 20 working days prescribed by section 10(1) of the Act. If clarification is required, pray contact me forthwith.

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 substantiated crimes between 01/01/2023 and 23/07/2025 where the Home Office offence classification of Sexual Offences has been recorded, and where the MO was searched for keywords including of "Taxi", "Taxi/PSV Driver", "PHV", "Uber", "Cab" is present.

I can confirm there are 49 crimes recorded. Of these, 2 are rape offences where the alleged perpetrator is a licensed taxi or PHV driver and the incident is connected to the carriage of passengers. Below, please find a table in which the total number of crimes has been broken down by classification of offences.

Please note, to reduce the possibility of victim identification, it is not possible to further break down the information by year. As such, the total number of crimes per offence category has been made available.

Total	
Offence	
Attempted rape of female 16+	1
Cause / incite female -13 to engage in sex	1
Cause / incite female -13 to engage in sex act no penetration	1
Meet female -16 following sexual grooming	1
Rape of female 16+	11
Sex act with female -13 offender -18 no penetration	1
Sex act with female -16	1
Sexual assault on female 13+	27
Sexual assault on female 13+ by penetration	2
Sexual assault on male 13+	3
Total	49

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