



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0757

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 28/08/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0757

On 30/07/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please supply the following for the period 1 Jan 2019 to the most recent month available:

1. Monthly arrest totals broken down by Home Office crime type.
2. Recorded offences and separate arrest totals for:
 - Knife enabled crime
 - Gang related violence
 - Residential burglary
 - Sexual offences
3. Grooming gang investigations: number opened, number concluded, prosecutions secured.
4. Arrests, charges, or convictions involving foreign national suspects (please break down by nationality if held).
5. Cases closed with "No Further Action" (NFA) – provide count and % of total.
6. Recorded allegations that the force failed to act on reports of child sexual exploitation (outcome of each).
7. Stop and search and use of force incidents (form 5090) – monthly totals by ethnicity, age, and outcome.

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

Unfortunately, there is no central register or identifier to electronically identify investigations into "grooming gangs", and the only way to determine if information is held with regards to this is to manually review relevant crime records. This would involve reviewing hundreds, if not thousands, of records which would take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you can 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.

Section 16 – Duty to assist

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 any information that can be extracted from the specific recording systems of Gloucestershire Constabulary should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please also note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information.

There are several parts of your original request that may be answered, however further clarification as to how the information is held, along with explanations of the functionality of our systems will help to identify how we may be able to assist you.

Q1, 2 & 4. Gloucestershire Constabulary's arrest recording system's primary function is to assist the Constabulary in adhering to Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. As such, the system does not record arrests as per the Home Office Crime Recording Rules but instead by Reason for Arrest (RFA) Categories.

I would advise you that whilst the Constabulary's crime recording system follows the Home Office Counting Rules for recorded crime, this is not the case with arrest data. We therefore cannot link arrests to crimes and are unable to extract electronically any meaningful data for the outcome of "charge" resulting from arrests. For example, an offender may be arrested for handling stolen goods but on investigation, they may be

charged with burglary and other offences. The crime recorded will therefore be different to the reason for arrest. Alternatively an offender may be arrested on suspicion of several offences but may only be charged with one of the offences.

The only information we could provide in answer to Q1 is the arrest totals broken down using our local system RFA categories.

There is also no functionality within the system to “group” the reasons for arrest by the categories you have listed, therefore we have no way to answer Q2.

Regarding Q4, using arrest data, we are able to extract the number of records where the arrested person has provided their nationality as anything other than UK/British. From those results we are also able to identify records where the arrest outcome has been recorded as Charge, however as explained above, the RFA offence may not be the same as the charged offence, meaning that information provided would be inaccurate.

Whilst the Crime Recording System records substantiated crimes using the Home Office crime recording rules, and we can provide more accurate charge information, nationality is not recorded within this data set and it is not possible to correlate the data extracted from the 2 systems.

With regards to convictions, please note that the Constabulary only holds data in relation to the number of individuals charged/summoned for a particular offence. The ultimate outcome of these offences depends on what happens at court i.e. whether the offender is found guilty (convicted) or not. This information comes from the court results which do not come within our systems.

Q5. We can provide data for records where the outcome is No Further Action, however clarification is required as to whether this refers to arrest data, or substantiated crime data.

Q6. This is not recorded data, therefore we are unable to answer this question.

Q7. We are able to answer this question.

In light of the above, please submit a new request if the information we can provide is of use to you.

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