



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0787

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 03/09/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0787

On 07/08/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Between 2018 to 2025, how many times has a GPS device (such as a location tracker or an Apple AirTag) been reported in cases of coercive control?

Between 2018 to 2025, how many times has a GPS device (such as a location tracker or an Apple AirTag) been reported in cases of stalking?

Please could this information be broken down annually in calendar years in a table format, with a column for each year from 2018-2025.

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

When an Individual contacts the police to report an offence, and it is confirmed to be a police matter, an incident will be created on the Incident Recording System. If that incident is deemed to fall within the Home Office Crime Recording Rules, a crime will then be recorded on the Crime Recording System.

Please note that the Incident Recording System is largely a free text entry system and does not record information in as much detail as the Crime Recording System and therefore its reporting function is limited. I can confirm that whilst there may be relevant information held within this system, the only way to determine this is to conduct a manual review of records. As this would involve the review of thousands of records, this 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

By way of assistance I can confirm that the Constabulary could search its crime database for substantiated crimes where the offence falls under the Home Office Sub-Classification of Stalking and Harassment. A filter can then be applied to search for specific terms that may appear in the MO. Depending upon the number of crimes retrieved by the search, we may then be able to manually review the crimes to determine whether the information is relevant to your request.

If this would be useful, please confirm the exact terms you would like for us to search. Please note that a search will only be useful for standalone words/terms that don't also form part of other words/terms.

If you wish to submit a request on this basis, please let us know.

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