

**Gloucestershire Constabulary**  
Police Headquarters  
No.1 Waterwells, Waterwells Drive  
Quedgeley, Gloucester. GL2 2AN  
[www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI\_25\_0852

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 09/03/26

Dear

**Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 25\_0852**

On 19/08/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

On Tuesday 5 August, a large animal was seen by motorists dead on the Central reservation of the M5 southbound near Gloucester Services. Shortly after 7pm, it was then reported that two police officers were seen removing it using a large white sheet.

I would like to see the report of this incident and to know the identity of the animal removed.

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at s1 (1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at s1 (1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon s17 of FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which: a) states that fact b) specifies the exemption(s) in question and c) states (if that would not be apparent) why the exemption applies.

Gloucestershire Constabulary can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information you requested, as the duty in s1 (1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply. To give a statement of the reasons why neither confirming nor denying is appropriate in this case would itself involve disclosure of exempt information, therefore no explanation can be given by virtue of the exemption at Section 40(5) of the Act- Personal Information.

Please be aware that information released under the Freedom of Information Act is considered a release in the widest sense (that is, a release to the world) and the release of this information, including either confirming or denying whether or not it is held, would

breach the Data Protection Principles contained with the Data Protection Act 2018, namely the first principle which states that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals

This acts as a refusal notice for your request.

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](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer  
Gloucestershire Constabulary