



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0865

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 25/11/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0865

On 27/08/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request data regarding incidents of criminal damage involving vehicles being “keyed” (scratched using a key or similar sharp object) within your area.

Could you please provide the following data for the period 01/07/2024 – 01/07/2025:

- The total number of reported incidents of cars being keyed.
- The make and model of the cars involved in each incident.
- The colour of the cars involved in each incident.

If your systems do not record incidents of cars being specifically ‘keyed’ as a category, or if it is not possible to provide this information within the cost limits, please provide available data relating to criminal damage, vandalism or tampering instead.

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

Unfortunately, there is no way to electronically extract information relating to vehicles being “keyed”. Whilst we are able to extract the number of crimes recorded where the offence is Criminal Damage, the only way to determine the type of damage is to manually review the MOs. For the period requested, there are over 1,000 records, which to manually review would take 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 confirm that in order to refine the search results, the Constabulary could apply a filter to the MO of the crimes earlier identified to search for specific keywords. Following refinement of the results, a manual review may then be possible to determine relevance to your request.

If this would be useful, please confirm the exact terms you would like 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 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