

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0979

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 28/04/26

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0979

On 07/10/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing to request access to information held by Gloucestershire Constabulary regarding the investigation and case of Frederick West and Rosemary West.

This request is made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am an independent researcher and author currently writing a book examining the historical, psychological, and investigative aspects of the Wests' crimes and trial.

I would be grateful if you could provide any of the following, where available and permissible for release:

- Police investigation summaries or reports relating to the Cromwell Street case
- Documentation outlining the scope of the inquiry and key investigative findings
- Any press briefings, case overviews, or internal reports that have since been made public

I understand that certain materials may be exempt due to legal or sensitivity reasons. If full disclosure is not possible, I would appreciate guidance on what information or redacted materials may lawfully be released, or whether any files have been transferred to The National Archives.

Please let me know if any fees apply or if you require additional information to locate the relevant records.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

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

To provide a definitive response to your application to provide you with copies of the information you requested would require us to manually review any held artefacts. The Constabulary's HOLMES system retains a record of over 10,000 documents, organised into broad categories. In addition, the Constabulary holds over 2200 exhibits. To know if any of these are relevant to your request would involve the review of thousands of records. In addition, a manual review would also be required to check the information for possible redaction or exemptions. This review would take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act, therefore Section 12 of the Act is applicable. This section does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimated that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours, equating to £450.00.

You should consider this to be a refusal notice under Section 17 of the Act for this part of your request.

When applying Section 12 exemption our duty to assist under Section 16 of the Act would normally entail that we contact you to determine whether it is possible to refine the scope of your request to bring it within the cost limits. However, from the information we have outlined above I see no reasonable way in which we can do so.

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.

Providing Information Outside of the Act

By way of assistance and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, we have supplied the information relevant to your request

which has already been retrieved. We trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

- Please find attached to this response a Gloucestershire Constabulary media pack.

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