



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_1006

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 04/11/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_1006

On 16/10/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding fireworks-related incidents involving animals or pets.

Specifically, I am seeking data for each of the following calendar years: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and any available partial data for 2025.

Please provide:

The number of fireworks-related incidents involving animals or pets recorded between 1 October and 31 December for each year.

If possible, please provide a daily or weekly breakdown of these incidents during this period, to show any dates with notable peaks or spikes in activity (e.g. around Bonfire Night, Diwali, or New Year's Eve).

The total number of fireworks-related incidents overall (including those not involving animals) during the same October-December period, for context.

The number of public complaints or reports made to North Yorkshire Police relating to fireworks and their impact on animals or pets, for the same period.

Any internal reports, summaries, or analyses that identify seasonal peaks in fireworks-related incidents or complaints, particularly those involving animals.

Where possible, please provide a breakdown by animal type (e.g. dog, cat, horse, livestock, wildlife, other) for the fireworks-related incidents involving animals described above.

For clarity, by "fireworks incidents involving animals," I mean any reported incident, complaint, or call for service where fireworks caused distress, injury, or harm to animals - including domestic pets (such as dogs and cats), livestock, horses, or wildlife - or where such animals were mentioned in the incident record or call notes.

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 for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. The only way of trying to determine whether any relevant information is held and to retrieve that information would be to manually review each incident recorded over the specified time period.

An initial search of the Incident Recording System for incidents recorded within October – December of the years 2020-2025, where the keyword of "Firework" has been identified, has returned over 1,000 records that would need to be reviewed to determine if animals are discussed within the incident.

A review of these records would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information 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 – unable to assist

Under Section 16 of the Act, unfortunately I'm unable to provide any advice for how you could refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12. Even if you reduce the time period, it is unlikely to reduce the number of incident records enough to make a manual review possible.

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