

Gloucestershire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
No.1 Waterwells, Waterwells Drive
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www.gloucestershire.police.uk



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_1019

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 05/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_1019

On 19/10/2025 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 arrests and charges under the Vagrancy Act 1824.

Arrests:

Total number of people arrested under the Vagrancy Act 1824 during the period:

- * 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023
- * 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024
- * 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025
- * 22 February 2022 - most recent date available

For each, please provide the reasons for arrest and the frequency of each reason.

Charges:

Total number of people charged under the Vagrancy Act 1824 during the period:

- * 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023
- * 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024
- * 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025
- * 22 February 2022 - most recent date available

For each, please provide the subject of the charges and the frequency of each charge.

Format:

- * Please segment the data by each of the requested time periods
- * Where possible, provide data by date of arrest and charge
- * Please provide data segmented by age using the following groups: 16-17, 18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46-55, 56-65, 66+
- * Preferred format: CSV, with labelled columns for age group, date, reason/charge, and frequency

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

A search was completed between 01 April 2022 and 09 February 2026 for the following offences:

- VG24003 Begging and wandering abroad Contrary to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 and section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.
- VG24005 Begging in a public place Contrary to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 and section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.
- VG24006 Procuring child to beg
- VG24008 Person other than prostitute being idle and disorderly (second or subsequent conviction)
- VG24009 Causing child to beg
- VG24013 Begging in a public place - second or subsequent occasion Contrary to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 and section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.
- VG24015 Begging and wandering abroad - second / subsequent occasion Contrary to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 and section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.
- VG24017 Lodging in a barn / outhouse / unoccupied building / open air - Vagrancy Act 1824 Contrary to section 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824, section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 and section 26(5) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991.
- VG24018 Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises Contrary to section 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824.
- VG24021 Gather / collect alms / charitable donations by false pretence / fraud Contrary to section 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824.
- VG24025 Wandering abroad and exposing wound or deformity to obtain alms
- VG24047 Persistently beg in a public place (second or subsequent offence) - Vagrancy Act 1824 Contrary to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 and section 70 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.

The data that has been recorded for this is below:

Month / Year	Age	Offence Arrested For	Disposal
May-22	36-45	Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises - VG24018	Charge
Jun-23	26-35	Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises - VG24018	Proposed
Jul-25	18-25	Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises - VG24018	Charge

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