



Your reference: N/A
Our reference: FOI_25_1032
E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 24/12/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_1032

On 22/10/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I am requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relating to your enforcement of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (Sections 1 and 3).

Please provide data held by your force for the period 1 January 2020 to the present date, covering the following:

Dog Seizures

1. The total number of dogs seized under:
 - a) Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
 - b) Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 Please provide totals for each calendar year.

Incident Reports

2. The total number of incidents recorded or reported under Section 3 of the Act (i.e. dogs dangerously out of control) for the same period.

Public Reports

3. The total number of reports or complaints received from members of the public alleging a dog to be of a prohibited type under Section 1 for the same period.

Current Custody Data (2025)

4. The total number of dogs currently held in police kennels under (a) Section 1 and under (b) Section 3.
5. What is the maximum capacity of kennel space for your force and does your force operate the IES - if so how many S1 dogs are currently under this scheme

Breed or Type Breakdown

6. Where recorded, a breakdown of the breeds or types of dogs seized under Section 3 since 1 January 2020.

Kennelling Costs

7. The average daily cost to kennel and care for a seized dog.

8. Whether these costs differ depending on whether a dog is seized under Section 1 or Section 3.

Dog Legislation Officers (DLOs)

9. Whether the force employs or assigns a dedicated Dog Legislation Officer (DLO) or equivalent role responsible for cases under either (a) Section 1 and/or (b) Section 3. Or will a DLO cover both?

10. If applicable, the number of DLOs currently employed or assigned within your force.

Kennelling Arrangements

11. Please confirm whether seized dogs are:

a) Held in police-operated facilities, or

b) Housed with contracted third-party kennels, rescues, or welfare organisations.

Please advise the total number of spaces for a and b.

If any of the requested data are not held centrally, please confirm this and provide the information that is held.

If this request exceeds the cost limit, please advise how it could be refined to stay within the limit.

I am happy to accept the information in any readily available format, such as an existing table, spreadsheet, or summary report.

If figures are only available for part of the date range or grouped by financial year instead of calendar year, please provide them in that form.

I do not require individual case files or personal data — only aggregated totals or statistics as already held by the force.

I am gathering national data on how the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 is enforced across UK police forces.

This information will be used to compare patterns in Section 1 and Section 3 enforcement, assess consistency in DLO deployment, and evaluate costs associated with seized dogs

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

Unfortunately, it is not electronically possible to search for the information requested regarding the total number of reports or complaints received from members of the public alleging a dog to be of a prohibited type under Section 1. 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 period.

An initial search was conducted of the Incident Recording System between 01/01/2020 – 22/10/2025, where the keyword of ‘Dangerous Dogs’ has been identified, has returned over 1,400 records that would need to be reviewed.

A review of these records would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to 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.

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.

I have numbered your request for ease.

Following receipt of your request, I can confirm that your request has been sent to the relevant department who has confirmed that the database used to record this information starts mid 2023.

1a. From September 2023 – 23

1b. January 2024 – December 2024 – 63

2.

Year	Total
2023	352

2024	324
2025 (until October)	280

4a. 3

4b. 8

5. 31 Kennel Spaces, yes we operate IES, currently 1 dog in kennel on IES

6. Various breeds

7. £31 per day

8. does not differ

9. both

10. 6

11. b

31 spaces

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