



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_1041

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/11/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_1041

On 27/10/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information How many cannabis factories have been dismantled by the force?

Can this be broken down into each year: 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025.

For each year - how much was the estimated street value of cannabis found?

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

There is no mandatory requirement to record the street value of plants located/seized and there is no central register for occasions where this is recorded by officers. The only way to determine if any information is held would be to manually review the entirety of the crime record, and cross reference with multiple other recording systems.

Earlier enquiries have determined that there are over 100 records relevant to your request. To cross manually review and cross reference these records would take longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act and therefore Section 12 of the act is engaged.

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

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

There is no specific offence of "cannabis farms", therefore the only way to search for any relevant information held by the constabulary is to conduct a search of the Crime Recording System for the offences of:

- Production of a cannabis plant
- Permitting premises to be used for unlawful purposes – Cannabis
- Production or being concerned in production of a controlled drug - Class B – Other

This has returned a total of 101 records for the date range of 01/01/2022 to 30/09/2025. A manual review has then been conducted of the MO free text to identify those records where the term "cannabis farm" or "cannabis grow" is included. I can confirm that there are 78 crime records.

Please see the table below for the results, broken down by year.

Year	Total
2022	19
2023	29
2024	19
2025	11

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