

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



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_26_0335

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 01/07/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0335

On 30/03/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Q1 From 1st July 2025 - 30th September 2025, how many dispersal orders were issued to individuals identified as rough sleepers?

Q2. From 1st July 2025 - 30th September 2025, how many people were arrested under the Vagrancy Act?

Q3. From 1st July 2025- 30th September 2025, how many times did officers move on people deemed to be sleeping rough?

Q4. Does your Force have guidance/policy in place that details if rough sleepers should be moved on from locations ahead of community events? If yes, please provide a copy of this guidance/policy

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

Following receipt of your request we have sourced information to our specialist team in Gloucestershire Constabulary. In relation to Q1 this information is not held in an electronically recorded format which would mean that we would need to manually review each dispersals order which would take excess of 18 hours

Q3, we have searched the system which has given us over 1300 records 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. Q1

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.

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.

Q2) A search was undertaken of the Constabulary's arrest records, for authorised detentions between 1st July 2025 and 30th September 2025. The data was filtered to return detentions under the following recorded categories:

- VG24003 - Begging and Wandering abroad
- VG24015 - Begging and Wandering abroad – second/subsequent occasion
- VG24005 - Begging in a public place
- VG24013 - Begging in a public place – second or subsequent occasion

- VG24021 - Gather / Collect alms / Charitable donations by false pretence / fraud
- VG24017 - Lodging in a barn / outhouse / unoccupied building / open air
- VG24047 - Persistently bed in a public place (second or subsequent offence)
- VG24018 - Vagrant – being found in or upon enclosed premises

The search returned 1 record, made under code VG24018 - vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises

Q4) No information held

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