

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_25_0738

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 24/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0738

On 20/07/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

A list of all the new models or types of equipment classed as "less lethal equipment" (including but not limited to restraints, incapacitant sprays, Conducted Energy devices or tasers, and Attenuating Energy projectiles such as baton rounds) that your constabulary procured between January 2022 and March 2025.

Less lethal equipment or weaponry can be defined as equipment designed to incapacitate an individual or group, mitigating a threat without causing permanent or serious injury or death.

Could this be broken down by:

- The date of procurement.
- The number of pieces of equipment procured.
- The name of the company that the equipment was procured from.

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

Item	Quantity ordered (01/01/2022 to 31/03/2025)
Limb restraints	80
Handcuffs	100
Pava Spray	1686
Batons	200
CEDs	80

Please note that PAVA Sprays are regularly changed due to having expiry dates, hence the significantly larger quantity ordered.

Section 17 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.

The exemptions applied to the above is as follow:

Section 21 – Information reasonably accessible by other means

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement

Section 21 is absolute and class-based and therefore no Public Interest Test or Harm Test is required.

The information that you have requested is already reasonably accessible to you by other means and is therefore exempt by virtue of Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Gloucestershire Constabulary are required to make certain information available to the public as part of a publication scheme.

The dates of procurement and supplier names are accessible via the following link:

[Sell2](#)

Any other contract information that has not been published on the Bluelight website has been exempt from disclosure by virtue of Section 31.

Section 31 is a qualified and prejudice-based exemption and as such, subject to a harm and public interest test which can be seen below:

Evidence of Harm

The release of some contractual information specifically around contract description, supplier name and product used by Gloucestershire Constabulary, could reveal capabilities available to the force and consequently give important information to those with criminal intent. The release of this information, combined with detailed information readily available on the internet, would allow criminals to identify the strengths and weaknesses of our abilities to carry out necessary investigations. This information could then be used in planning terrorist and criminal acts.

The release of this information would therefore impact on the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders and increase the fear of crime in the community Gloucestershire Constabulary seeks to serve.

Factors favouring disclosure

There is a public interest in knowing how public money is being spent in ensuring value for money both at the point of purchase and in respect of what those resources are to be used for.

Factors favouring non-disclosure

There is a strong public interest in ensuring Gloucestershire Constabulary's effective law enforcement capability. Disclosure of supplier identities and product information together with contract descriptions would mean that individuals could research details about

resources available to the force. This may allow those with criminal intent the opportunity to assess the strengths and any possible weaknesses of the Constabulary. This would compromise law enforcement which could lead to more crime being committed and individuals being placed at risk. This information may also be used by criminals in combination with other information they have gathered to try and disrupt law enforcement.

Balance Test

It is my view that the public safety from non-disclosure is of greater importance than the advantage of public confidence from the disclosure of this information. Gloucestershire Constabulary will not disclose information that could compromise the future law enforcement role of the force.

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