

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_ 26_0082

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 26_0082

On 19/01/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please could you supply information on -

- 1, The number of response officers on duty from 10pm to 7am in your force area each day for the last available 14 days.
- 2, The number of these response officers who were working single-crewed shifts.

If answering question 2 would push the FOI over the time and cost limit please only answer question one.

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

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 following exemption applies:

Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement

The exemption above is qualified and prejudice based therefore both a Public Interest Test and Harm Test are required.

Evidence of Harm

To disclose the information on a shift basis or if the total is below 10% of the operational shift strength, could cause subsequent harm to the Police service's ability to protect the public it serves and could prejudice its ability to perform core functions such as the prevention and detection of crime.

Releasing refined data or low figures and operational tactics relating to a specific date / time would give individuals the intelligence required to disrupt police activity and will 'give way' to the capability of criminals, to target innocent members of the public.

On a national level, criminals would be able to identify in which force areas / times resources are weak, and use this knowledge to their own advantage in furthering criminal activity around the country.

The disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the Police service's ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

Public Interest Test**Factors in Favour of Disclosure**

The disclosure of this information would lead to a better awareness of the policing resource in the County on night shift may provide information and reassurance to the public that adequate resources are in place to protect the Community.

Factors against Disclosure

The disclosure of information at shift level would compromise law enforcement tactics by identifying policing capabilities and resource on a specific date, thereby enabling criminals to target their activities to certain areas and times. This would enable more crime to be committed and have an impact on police resources, thereby hindering the prevention and detection of crime.

Balance Test

The Police Service is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Whilst there is a public interest in the transparency of policing activity and providing assurance that the police service is appropriately and effectively resourced, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police operations, tactics and capabilities in order to ensure that the protection of the public is safeguarded. Therefore it is our opinion that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for your request.

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