

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0085

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 26/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0085

On 20/01/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

I would like to request data relating to recorded incidents at football matches hosted within your force area, for the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

I would be grateful if you could provide:

The number of recorded incidents at football grounds/parks/pitches on match days classified as:

Assault (including common assault and ABH/GBH)

Public order offences

Violent disorder

Any other violence-related offences

I'd also like to please be provided with:

The number of arrests made in connection with semi-pro/amateur football matches in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 (with the figures provided separately for each year)

Where possible, a breakdown of:

How many of the incidents involved players (rather than spectators, for example), and how many involved match officials.

Where the incidents took place and any details of exactly what happened (but only if this is possible)

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

Following receipt of your request, I can confirm that searches were undertaken within Gloucestershire Constabulary to identify and locate the relevant information.

Unfortunately, there is no central register for the requested information and no way to retrieve the information by way of direct retrievable electronic searches. Therefore, a manual review of incidents relating to the requested information topic areas. In order to fulfil this request, the Constabulary would need to gather information on all amateur football teams and grounds within its policing area in order to obtain a dated fixture list which would then need to be cross referenced against any incident data held. Any incident data held would then be required to be reviewed to fulfil this request. This process would clearly take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information 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.

Section 16 – unable to assist

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the requested timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timeframe afforded by the Act but still provide the requested information.

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