



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0143

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 18/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_

On 05/02/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

With regard to the recording of crime data relating to suspects, offenders, witnesses and victims, please provide:

1. Clarification of which of the following characteristics you record:
 - a. Sex
 - b. Gender
 - c. Gender identity
 - d. Gender reassignment
2. Include the definitions of the above categories at a-d currently used by your force.
3. Provide your policy guidelines for the categories that you record.
4. Clarify on what basis the recording of sex is based. If based upon self definition by the person concerned only, please specify this. If any other factor applies, please specify this.
5. Provide a copy of any communication to your staff regarding the implementation and application of this policy/guidance.
6. With specific regard to the recording of crime data in relation to rape offences, specify on what basis the sex of the offender is recorded. For clarity, if recorded on the basis of self definition by the alleged offender, please specify this.
7. Provide your crime data for rapes reported Jan 2025-Jan 2026 to include number of rapes reported, total number of offenders recorded, breakdown of offenders by sex.

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

Following receipt of your request, subject matter experts were contacted and their responses to your questions are set out below.

1. Gloucestershire Constabulary moved to a new crime recording system in mid-February 2026. This system provides the option of recording the gender of a subject – a subject can be perpetrator, victim or witness – with a drop-down menu of 3 options which include, male, female and unknown. The same system is used by many police forces across the UK and is one of two of the most common systems in use. The options are pre-designated. The subject field can be expanded, which does allow for additional information to be included.
2. The terms used are dictated by the options available in the pre-designated crime recording fields.
3. No information held.
4. Sex is recorded based on the information received from the person reporting the offence or the person being spoken to.
5. No information held.
6. Rape will be recorded when the victim has been subject of nonconsensual sex by a person with a penis. The member of staff would record the crime and details based on the information they were given and select the most suitable category. The investigator can amend the crime record based on additional information not known at the time of recording.

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.

7. 808 incidents of rape were reported between Jan 2025 and Jan 2026. Of the 808 incidents, 12 incidents involved more than one offender. In 46 of the incidents “male” was specifically marked as the gender of the offender.

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