

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0182

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 22/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0182

On 16/02/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. In the period from 1.1.25 to 31.12.25 how many times has your force carried out an operation to see if drugs have been present at a football stadium within your area? By this I mean an operation to check if drug residues have been left behind at a building or facility indicating that drug taking has gone on at the venue at some date in the past.
2. If so please state the (i) venue where the tests were carried out, (ii) the area within the venue where the tests were carried out and (iii) details of the types of drugs that were detected/or if no drugs were detected.
3. In the period from 1.1.25 to 31.12.25 how many times has your force seized illegal drugs from people at a football stadium within your area?
4. If so please state the (i) the stadium venue where the drugs were seized, (ii) the quantity and type of drug that was seized.

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

In relation to questions 1 and 2.

No information held. We have asked the relevant business areas, and they have confirmed that during the requested time period, no specific football stadium/ground drug presence testing has been undertaken by Gloucestershire Constabulary.

In relation question 3 and 4.

No drugs have been seized as part of a dedicated drugs disruption operation at football grounds during the specified timeframe. However, this does not mean no drugs have been sized at a football ground by the Constabulary during this time.

It may be a case that there are other incidents in which Police have attended a football stadium and drugs have been seized however this would require a manual review of all reported incidents and drug seizures over a 12-month period which obviously 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.

However, if you wish to amend your request to include specific football grounds or stadiums, then this could potentially reduce the estimated time required and thus cost to process 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