

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



Our reference: FOI_26_0199

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 23/07/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0199

On 18/02/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear FOI Officer,

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am seeking recorded data relating to coercive control offences under Section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 (Coercive or controlling behaviour in an intimate or family relationship) for the period from 2015 to 2025.

For each calendar year listed below, please provide the following information, separated by sex (Male / Female / Unknown if applicable):

Total number of reports of coercive control (as defined under Section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015), by sex.

Total number of charges for coercive control, by sex.

Total number of charges where coercive control was the only charge (i.e., not accompanied by any other offence), by sex.

Please supply data for the following years:

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

If you are unable to provide data that exactly matches the categories above due to recording or coding practices, please:

a) Provide the closest available dataset, and explain any differences in how the figures are defined or collected; and

b) Explain any year(s) for which data is not held.

Where possible, please provide the data in CSV or Excel format.

For the purposes of this request, “coercive control” refers to the offence outlined in Section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/9/section/76>

If you believe any part of this request is unclear or requires refinement, please contact me in writing.

I understand that under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you are required to respond within 20 working days.

This request is made for research purposes and is not intended to criticise individual police forces, officers, or operational decision-making. I am an independent researcher seeking to examine, on the basis of empirical evidence, whether the offence of coercive or controlling behaviour introduced in 2015 is demonstrably effective in practice. Where the data suggests limitations or unintended outcomes, the research also considers whether criminalisation remains the most effective response, or whether public funds may be better directed towards non-criminal justice interventions and victim support initiatives within the domestic abuse sector.

Thank you for your assistance.

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

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.

Following receipt of your request we have sourced the information to our relevant teams within Gloucestershire Constabulary who have helped formed responses to your request. Please see the table below containing the information.

Years	Genders			Totals
	Female	Male	Unidentified	
2016		3	9	12
2017	2	17	56	75
2018		26	122	148
2019		26	246	272
2020		33	240	273
2021		44	511	555
2022	4	58	830	892
2023	10	70	941	1021
2024	9	73	955	1037
2025	9	34	889	932
Total	34	384	4799	5217

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