

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



Our reference: FOI_26_0345

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 27/07/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0345

On 02/04/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. how many children (under 18 years old) were hospitalised each calendar year from 2021 to 2025 following contact with your officers?
2. what are the reasons for treatment being needed? (ie. taser-use, police dogs)
3. if the time limit allows - please break down the data to indicate the children's ages.

On 02/04/2026, we requested the following clarification:

1. Please can you define what you mean by "contact with your officers"?
2. Please can you clarify if you are asking about "children" that have been suspects?

To which you replied:

1. Incidents where your officers have attended a scene and interacted with a child as part of the response, resulting the child needing hospital treatment as a result - ie. Taser use, injuries caused by police dogs.
2. Suspects or present at a scene, and due to an interaction with police officers, required hospital treatment.

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

"Present at a scene" is a very broad interpretation of a person's involvement – it may be that they were at an address where an offence took place, but they were not involved, for example a child present at a DA incident between parents. This would result in minor interactions with police however if they are not recorded as a victim, witness, suspect or offender, there is no mandatory requirement to record if they have subsequently required

medical treatment. There is, therefore, no way to electronically identify if the information you have requested is held by the constabulary. The only way to determine if this information is held, would be to manually review all crime records, and likely all Police Officer pocket notebooks. This would 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.

Section 16 – Duty to assist

When applying the Section 12 refusal, our duty to assist under Section 16 of the Act would normally entail that we contact you to determine whether it is possible to refine the scope of your request to bring it within the cost limits. Whilst it has been difficult to do this following the earlier clarification, I hope that the following assists –

- If a person has been detained (i.e. arrested) and needs medical treatment, there will be a record of this within the detention log.
- If a person has been tasered or a police dog has been deployed, and this has resulted in the need for medical treatment, there will be a record of this.

We can conduct electronic searches of these specific records to determine if any relevant information is held. Please note, however, that these records will only be relevant to offenders, not victims or witnesses.

If you believe that this information would be useful to you, you can submit a new request based on the above.

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