

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0400

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 10/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0400

On 28/04/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please could you provide the following data for each of the last five calendar years (2021–2025):

1. The total number of vehicles seized per year (please separate these totals into each year).
2. A breakdown of vehicle seizures by reason, where recorded. This could include (but is not limited to):
 - No insurance
 - No valid driving licence
 - Illegal modifications
 - Anti-social driving
 - Stolen vehicles
 - Other (please specify where possible)
3. The number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) or other fines issued in relation to the offences leading to vehicle seizures, broken down by offence type and year, where this data is held.

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

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 – exemption: where cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

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.

We have consulted with the relevant business areas, who have advised that vehicle seizures are not recorded as a standalone occurrence and are in fact contained within the incident log as such. As a result of how the data is recorded, it would require a manual review of all incidents within the last 5 years to ascertain if a vehicle has been seized and if so the reason. Any Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued are done so completed separately to vehicle seizures. Therefore, the only way to ascertain the requested information would be to conduct a manual review of all vehicle seizures and FPNs issued which for the last 5 calendar years would clearly be beyond the 18 working hours prescribed under the Freedom of Information Act.

Excess cost removes the forces obligation under the Freedom of Information Act, however under Section 16 – Duty to provide advice and assistance, an authority is required to offer an applicant the opportunity to redefine their request within the cost limit. Unfortunately, due to the way in which data is held and recorded, we can see no feasible way in which you could refine 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