

Gloucestershire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
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www.gloucestershire.police.uk



Our reference: FOI_26_0474

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 03/09/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0474

On 15/05/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2025:

The number of recorded offences, investigations, or incidents relating to:

- a) cannabis cultivation, cannabis production, cannabis farms, or cannabis factories.
- b) keeping or managing a brothel (Home Office offence code 024/19).

Where possible, please state whether the premises relating to the offences/investigations/incidents were classified as residential or commercial; the property type (e.g. private dwelling, flat, HMO, social housing, industrial unit, retail premises, hotel, short-term let); whether the premises were owner-occupied, privately rented, socially rented, or of unknown tenure.

I am not requesting addresses, names, full postcodes, or any information capable of identifying individuals.

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

Following receipt of your request, a search was conducted of the Constabulary's incident recording database for incidents logged between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2025 with a key word search of 'cannabis'. Over 62,000 records were returned. Each of these records would need to be manually searched to determine any relevance to the questions you asked as we cannot electronically extract the information otherwise. We confidently estimate that this would exceed the 18 hours allowed by the Freedom of Information Act and therefore Section 12 of the Act is engaged.

We are committed to being an anti-discriminatory organisation. This means not only acting in a non-discriminatory way, but addressing systemic inequalities, disadvantage and discrimination.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the 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 – unable to assist

Unfortunately, I'm unable to assist in suggesting ways of refining your request to come within the confines of Section 12 of the Act. Even reducing the timescale would not reduce the number of records enough that a manual review could be conducted within the timescale but still provide meaningful information.

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