

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0518

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_518

On 01/06/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide data for the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26, broken down by year for the following:

The total number of individuals arrested by your force for offences related to Indecent Images of Children or Sexual Communication with a Child.

In how many of those specific arrests did your force submit a child protection referral (or multi-agency safeguarding hub / MASH referral) to local authority social services because a child was resident in the home of the suspect?

Of the referrals identified in Question 2, how many resulted in emergency police protection powers (Section 46 of the Children Act 1989) being exercised to remove the child?
In how many of those specific arrests did your force submit a child protection referral (or multi-agency safeguarding hub / MASH referral) to local authority social services where the child(ren) in question were not residing in the same home as the suspect?

Of the referrals identified in Question 4, how many resulted in emergency police protection powers (Section 46 of the Children Act 1989) being exercised to remove the child?

If this request exceeds the cost limits, please advise under Section 16 how I can narrow the scope (for example, by restricting the query to a shorter timeframe or specific police basic command units).

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

Unfortunately there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of electronic searches. There is no specific Reason for Arrest (RFA) codes for the offences you have listed and any arrest may fall within multiple categories including Indecent Images, Malicious Communications or even Other Crime Reportable. An initial search has therefore been carried out for these categories which has returned over 2,000 records. These will need to be manually reviewed to determine if the record is relevant to your request. This would 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 of the Freedom of Information Act, provides the opportunity to assist the applicant with any suggestions or variation that may allow a search to be undertaken within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the Act.

I confirm that the Constabulary could provide the following:

Section 16 – unable to assist

Unfortunately, I am 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.

Please also be advised that with regards to Q2-5, there is no recording practice for this information, therefore a manual review of records would be required to determine if information in answer to these questions is held.

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