

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0532

E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 29/06/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0532

On 05/06/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide the following information in relation to pregnancy risk assessments for staff in roles with potential exposure to hazardous substances or environments:

1. A copy of any template pregnancy risk assessment form used for staff in scientific investigation roles.
2. Any policy or guidance governing pregnancy risk assessments for staff in scientific investigation units, including:
 - Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) / Scene of Crime Officers (SOCO)
 - Fingerprint examination units
 - Chemical or forensic laboratories
 - Digital forensics / cyber investigation teams
 - Any other technical units involving exposure to hazardous chemicals, biological material, or radiation
3. For the last five financial years (2019/20 to 2023/24), how many pregnancy risk assessments were conducted for staff in scientific investigation units?
4. Of those assessments, in how many cases was the member of staff:
 - a) Temporarily redeployed to alternative duties?
 - b) Unable to continue in their role for the duration of their pregnancy?
5. Does your force maintain a register of substances to which pregnant staff in these units may be exposed? If so, please provide a copy or summary.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds some relevant information. However, the following exemption has been applied to your request.

Part of your request is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA (Information available to the applicant by other means).

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you (the applicant) with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies. The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

- Section 21 Information available to the applicant by other means.

The information requested in questions 1&2 can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/gloucestershire/policies/maternity-paternity-shared-parental-leave--adoption-policy--procedures>

2) Additionally, please see the Pregnant & Nursing Mothers Risk Assessment attached within your response.

3) For the last five financial years, 0 pregnancy risk assessments have been specifically undertaken for staff within the Forensic Services Department.

4, a, b) No information held.

5) As per our health and safety obligations, a full COSHH list is kept for substances used within the Forensic Services Department. Used and stored chemicals are also subject to having a COSHH risk assessment. Below is a list of chemicals which are frequently used within our Forensic Services Department.

Chemical List
1,2 Indandione
1,8-Diazafluoren-9-one
5-SSA dihydrate
Acetone
Acid Black
Acid Violet
Acid Yellow
Ammonium Iron (II) sulphate hexahydrate
Citric Acid Anhydrous
Cyanobloom
Decaethylene glycol mono-dodecylether
Ethanol
Ethyl acetate
HFE 7100
HFE 71DE
Iron Nitrate Nonahydrate
Magnetic Iron Oxide
Polysorbate 20
Silver Nitrate CAS
Simbase fluorescent basic yellow
Zinc Chloride

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