

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0678

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 04/08/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 26_0678

On 16/07/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide the following information for the period from 1 June 2020 to 1 June 2026, broken down into one-month intervals.

For each month, please provide the number of recorded offences within the Gloucestershire Constabulary force area that were tagged, flagged, or otherwise marked in Gloucestershire Constabulary systems as relating to "organised crime".

Please also explain how Gloucestershire Constabulary defines or applies the "organised crime" tag or marker, including the types or categories of offences that may be included.

If possible, please also provide the current total number of organised crime groups or organised criminal gangs identified within the Gloucestershire Constabulary force area, subject to any applicable exemptions.

If providing the information in one-month intervals would exceed the applicable Freedom of Information cost or time limit, please increase the interval length as necessary to bring the request within the limit, using the shortest intervals that can reasonably be provided.

Please provide the information in PDF or Excel format.

Kind regards,

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

Following receipt of your request we have sourced the information to the specialised department within the constabulary to gain the relevant information please see below

Section 17 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.

The following exemption applies:

Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement

The exemption above is qualified and prejudice based therefore both a Public Interest Test and Harm Test are required.

Evidence of Harm

Questions 1 and 2 seek to establish whether the force holds information capable of identifying and quantifying offending assessed as being linked to organised crime.

Whilst it is publicly known that police forces identify and manage organised crime groups, information concerning the way offending is associated with organised crime forms part of policing's wider operational and intelligence picture.

Accordingly, Section 31(3) is engaged.

Public Interest Test

Factors in Favour of Disclosure

There is a recognised public interest in openness and transparency regarding policing's response to organised crime. Confirming or denying whether information is held may assist public understanding of the extent to which organised crime affects local communities and how police forces respond to that threat. There is also a legitimate public interest in ensuring accountability for the effectiveness of policing activity directed towards tackling organised crime and protecting the public from serious criminality.

Factors favouring maintaining the NCND position

Factors against Disclosure

There is a strong public interest in ensuring that information concerning policing capabilities is not disclosed where doing so could assist those involved in organised criminality.

Factors favouring maintaining the NCND position

Confirmation or denial may provide information about the extent to which offending associated with organised crime can be identified, assessed, and monitored by the police. Considered alongside responses from other forces, this could contribute to a broader understanding of policing arrangements and capabilities in relation to organised crime. There is therefore a substantial public interest in protecting information which could undermine the effectiveness of law enforcement activity and prejudice the prevention and detection of crime.

Balance Test

The force recognises the public interest in transparency and accountability regarding policing's response to organised crime. However, there is a stronger public interest in protecting information which would reveal whether the force possesses capabilities, arrangements or processes that enable offending to be identified and quantified as being linked to organised crime. On balance, we consider that the public interest favours maintaining the Neither Confirm nor Deny position.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for 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