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Our reference: FOI_26_0768

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Date: 10/09/2026

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0768

On 14/08/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Hi there,

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information about recorded offences connected to schools in your force area. I am requesting aggregate numbers only, no personal data, and no information relating to identifiable individuals or specific incidents.

Please provide figures for each of the last three full financial or calendar years (please state which you have used) where held:

1. Whether your force is able to identify recorded offences by location type - specifically, whether offences occurring at school premises can be isolated in your recording system (for example, via a premises or location flag).
2. If so, the number of recorded offences that took place at school premises, broken down by year, and, if readily available, by broad offence type (e.g. violence against the person, possession of a weapon, criminal damage).
3. The number of recorded offences of assault where the victim was a member of school staff (for example, a teacher or teaching assistant), by year, where this information is held or can be identified.
4. The number of recorded offences involving the possession of a bladed article or offensive weapon on school premises, by year, where this information is held.

Format and scope

Where possible, I would be grateful to receive this in a machine-readable format (Excel or CSV).

To help keep this within the appropriate cost limit under section 12 of the Act, I have kept the request narrow and am seeking only aggregate figures. If any single element cannot be answered within the cost limit, please answer the remaining elements — in particular question 1, on whether school-location offences can be identified at all — rather than

refusing the request in full. A statement that particular information is not held, or cannot be isolated within your recording system, is itself a valid and helpful response.

I am not requesting any personal data, case details, or information that could identify any individual, victim, or specific school, and I am content for figures to be rounded or suppressed where necessary to protect against identification.

If any element is unclear, or a small refinement to the wording would allow you to retrieve the information more easily, please contact me under your section 16 duty to advise and assist, and I will gladly adjust.

I look forward to your response within 20 working days, as required by the Act.

Yours faithfully,

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

Unfortunately, there is no central register for this information and no way to retrieve the information by way of direct electronic searches. The Constabulary doesn't record by locations the incidents do not have the requested characteristic criterion linked. Therefore, a manual review of each recorded incident would have to be undertaken. In order to identify if the relevant information is recorded it would be necessary to manually review over 850 records.

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