

Gloucestershire Constabulary
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Our reference: FOI_26_0780

E-mail: FOI

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Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 20/08/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0780

On 15/08/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

RE: Freedom of Information Request (Freedom of Information Act 2000)

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request access to recorded information held by your authority. Specifically, I am requesting information regarding reports or logs of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP), Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), or highly unusual low-altitude structures in the sky.

To keep this request within the statutory cost and time limits, I have restricted the scope to a single calendar year and a specific regional focus:

Time Period about may 2016 to 31st December 2017

- Geographical Scope: The city of Gloucester and the wider Gloucestershire airspace.
- Keywords for Search: Please search your command and control logs, emergency call databases, and incident reports using keywords including: "UFO", "UAP", "Unusual Lights", "Object in the sky", "Bar", "Figure-8", and "Infinity".

Information Requested:

The sighting involved an exceptionally large, multi-witness aerial phenomenon located approximately 10 miles in front of the witness. The structure appeared as a massive horizontal bar estimated at 1 to 2 miles in length, and behind a colossal, turning figure-8 shape

Because independent reports of this same massive structure were observed by other members of the public in the region on the same day, it is highly probable that 999 or 101 emergency calls were made.

For any logs matching the criteria above, please provide:

1. The date, time, and general location of the logged report.
2. A brief summary narrative or description of the object as provided by the reporting individual(s).
3. Any actions taken, or logs of cross-notifications with National Air Traffic Services (NATS) or local military airbases (e.g., RAF Brize Norton / RAF Fairford).

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

Following receipt of your request, initial searches were conducted of the Constabulary's incident recording system for incidents recorded from 01/05/2016 to 31/12/2017. Key word searched were undertaken for several of your requests. For the request to search for "bar", 5174 reports were returned which would require manual review to determine any relevance to your request. We confidently estimate that this would take us in excess of the 18 hours set out by the Freedom of Information Act and therefore Section 12 is engaged.

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.

Providing Information Outside of the Act

By way of assistance and although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, we have supplied the information relevant to your request which has already been retrieved. We trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

- 0 records were returned for the search for “unusual lights”
- 0 records were returned for the search for “object in the sky”

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