

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0808

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 16/09/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0808

On 25/08/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (or, in Scotland, the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002), I am requesting information relating to reports of drink spiking made to your force.

Please provide the following information for each calendar year 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, and separately for 2026 year-to-date (up to the most recent date for which data are available):

1. The total number of reports/allegations of drink spiking recorded by your force in each year.
2. Of those reports, the number where the recorded age of the alleged victim was between 18 and 21 inclusive(i.e. aged 18, 19, 20 or 21), broken down by year and the gender of those victims.
3. Of the reports involving victims aged 18–21, the number that resulted in a crime being recorded, broken down by year.
4. For all drink-spiking reports, the number that resulted in a crime being recorded, broken down by year.
5. For 2026 year-to-date, please provide the equivalent figures for the period from 1 January 2026 to the latest date for which data are available.

Following receipt of your request, we sent a clarification request On 26/08/2026:

To help us identify the information you require I would be grateful if you would clarify the following information:

When an Individual contacts the police and it is deemed to be a police matter, an incident will be created on the Incident Recording System.

Gloucestershire Constabulary's Incident Recording System is largely a free text system and therefore its reporting function is limited. As such, a manual review would be required to establish if any incidents are relevant to your request regarding drink spiking. It is also worth noting that a free text search of 'spik' to return linked words such as 'spike', 'spiking' or 'spiked' may be required to locate any records relevant to your request.

As these are generic terms used in common discussion, for example 'spiked hair' or 'spiked fence', we would need to conduct a further manual review to determine if any of the incidents would be relevant to your request and would be likely to take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act which would engage the Section 12 Cost refusal.

Alternatively, a search of the Crime Recording System could be conducted for specific offences, for example, Administering a substance with intent, which could potentially assist with the data you require.

Below I have provided the link to the Home Office Crime Recording Rules for you to view in order to identify relevant offences.

[Home Office Crime Recording Rules for frontline officers and staff - GOV.UK](#)

Once the relevant offences have been identified and a search can be conducted, a filter can also be applied to the MO freetext for specific terms/keywords such as 'spike' 'spiking', 'spiked' etc. Again, please be advised that words such as these are generic terms used in general discussions and some manual review may still be required to determine if any of the search results would be applicable to your request. Depending on the number of records returned from a search, there is still a possibility that the Section 12 refusal could be engaged.

If a search of Crime data would be of use to you, please let me know.

To which you responded on 26/08/2026:

Yes that is perfect - the administration of a substance with intent will suffice.

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

Following your instruction after a response was received from our clarification, a search was conducted of the Constabulary's crime recording database from 01/01/2020 – 24/08/2026 for all offences under Administering a substance with intent.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies, and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly, whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

In response to your request, I can confirm the following:

Q1

Year	Count
2020	3
2021	9
2022	6
2023	6
2024	4
2025	4
2026	3
Total	35

Q2

Age	Count
18	5
19	6
20	1

Q3

All 12 records referenced in the response to Q2 were recorded as crimes.

Q4

Of the 12 records, 9 were drink-related, 1 needle-related and 2 were not specified.

Q5

Answered in Q1, 2026 – year to date

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