

Gloucestershire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
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www.gloucestershire.police.uk



Our reference: FOI_26_xxxx

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 26/10/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0887

On 17/09/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. Please provide the total number of reported garden centre shoplifting incidents within your jurisdiction for each of the following years: 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026.
2. If recorded, please provide information on the types of items reported stolen during garden centre theft incidents. For example, provide the count of stolen tools, Lego, Jellycats, candles
3. If you have records of the estimated value of the stolen items, please provide this information in aggregated form for each year.
4. Time of Year (Seasonality) of Incidents If the data is accessible, please provide details of the months or seasons in which garden theft incidents were most frequently reported.

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

Following receipt of your request, a search was conducted for all substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2023 and 09/02/2026 whereby the offence was recorded as shoplifting with a location of 'garden centre'.

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.

I can confirm the recorded and relevant information below:

Q1

2023 - 12

2024 - 16

2025 - 5

2026 – 2

Q2

Type of Item	Count
Alcohol	4
Christmas decorations	3
Cleaning equipment	1
Clothing	3
Drinks	1
Jellycat	2
Jewellery	2
Kitchen equipment	2
Not recorded	14
Power tools	2
Soft toys	1
Total	35

Q3

No information held

Q4

Gloucestershire Constabulary records the date and month for recorded crimes. To answer your question about seasonality, the crimes have been grouped together into 'quarters', as set out below:

Quarter 1 = January – March

Quarter 2 = April – June

Quarter 3 = July – September

Quarter 4 = October – December

Year / Quarter	Count
2023	
Qtr1	2
Qtr2	5
Qtr3	2
Qtr4	3
2024	
Qtr1	1
Qtr2	2
Qtr3	2
Qtr4	11
2025	
Qtr1	3
Qtr4	2
2026	
Qtr1	2
Total	35

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