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

Your reference:	N/A
Our reference:	FOI_26-0914
E-mail:	FOI @gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial:	01452 754304
Postal Address:	As above
Date:	29/10/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0914

On 29/09/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear Gloucestershire Constabulary,

I am writing on behalf of the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or, for Police Scotland, the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

In September 2026 MAG sent a survey on motorcycle theft to every Police and Crime Commissioner or equivalent. Several offices replied that the evidence questions are for the force to answer. This request asks the force for that information. The questions keep the survey numbering so the answers can be read alongside it. If you are already handling the survey as an FOI request referred by your commissioner's office or equivalent, please give me that reference; I am happy for the two to be dealt with together, as long as each question below is answered.

Definitions
• "Motorcycle" means any powered two-wheeled vehicle, including mopeds and scooters. If your records use a different definition, please say what it is.
• "Motorcycle theft" means any recorded offence of theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle (or the equivalent classification in Scotland or Northern Ireland) where the vehicle was a motorcycle.
• "2023" and "2025" mean the calendar years 1 January to 31 December.
Questions
Q2. Motorcycle theft has no Home Office crime classification of its own and is recorded within the general Theft of a Motor Vehicle category. Does your force use any marker, tag, qualifier, internal code or vehicle-type field that allows motorcycle thefts to be identified

We are committed to being an anti-discriminatory organisation. This means not only acting in a non-discriminatory way, but addressing systemic inequalities, disadvantage and discrimination.

separately within that category? If so, please describe it and state whether completing it is mandatory.
Q3. The number of motorcycles reported stolen in your force area in 2023 and in 2025. If these figures cannot be produced from your crime recording system without a manual review of individual records, please say so, and say what would be needed to make it possible.
Q4. Details of any operations, dedicated resourcing or cross-force intelligence-sharing arrangements aimed specifically at motorcycle theft between 1 January 2023 and the date of this request, with approximate dates.
Q5. The number of motorcycle theft offences in which a suspect was identified, in 2023 and in 2025.
Q6. Of the offences in Q5, the number that resulted in a charge for theft, handling stolen goods or conspiracy, rather than taking without consent alone, in 2023 and in 2025.
Q7. The number of stolen motorcycles recovered in 2023 and in 2025. If these figures cannot be produced without a manual review of individual records, please say so.
Q8. A copy of any written policy, protocol or guidance on how officers or the control room respond to a live tracker or GPS activation alert on a stolen motorcycle. If there is no motorcycle-specific version, please provide the one that covers stolen vehicles generally.
Q9. The number of times since 29 June 2026 an officer has authorised a search under section 26A of the Theft Act 1968 (inserted by section 171 of the Crime and Policing Act 2026) in relation to a stolen motorcycle, and a copy of any written policy or training material on the use of that power. If this power does not apply in your jurisdiction, please say so.
Q11. Details of any engagement your force has had on secure motorcycle parking provision since 1 January 2023, with a local authority or otherwise, for example advice from Designing Out Crime Officers or involvement in Park Mark/Safer Parking assessments covering motorcycle parking. If no central record is held, please say so.

How to answer

Please answer each question under its number, giving figures as 2023 / 2025. Where information is not held, please say so against that question rather than leaving it out. A statement that a figure cannot be produced without a manual review of records is a complete answer to that part of the question.

If answering the whole request would exceed the cost limit, please tell me, under your duty to advise and assist, which questions can be answered within it. My order of priority is Q2, Q3, Q7, Q8, Q9, Q5, Q6, Q4, Q11.

I am happy to receive the information electronically.

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

Following receipt of you request we have sourced the information to our specialist departments. Unfortunately, in relation to Question 7, we would need to manually review each report to determine whether the inputted field is related and it would be necessary to manually review over thousands of records, as this is the only way of trying to determine whether any relevant information is held. This would involve the review of thousands of records and would therefore take far longer than the 18 hours prescribed by the Freedom of Information 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.

Please see attached documents which answer, Q8, Q3 and Q6.

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