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

Our reference: FOI_26_0921
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_0921

On 30/09/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request information regarding speeding offences recorded by speed cameras within your Policing area during the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025.

I am particularly interested in the following areas:
- Gloucester
- Cheltenham
- Chelmsford
- Stroud
- Gloucestershire (as a whole)

For each of these towns/cities, please provide the up to five individual speed camera locations which recorded the highest number of speeding offences during 2026 (year to date so far).

For each of these locations, please provide:
- The road name / location of the camera.
- The type of enforcement (for example fixed, mobile or average speed).
- The total number of speeding offences recorded at that location in:
--2023
--2024
--2025
-- 2026 (year to date so far)

The intention is to allow comparison of speeding detections at the same locations over the three-year period.

If readily available, I would also be grateful if you could provide, for the 2025 figures only, the number of recorded offences which resulted in:

- a fixed penalty notice;
- a speed awareness course; and
- prosecution/court proceedings

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

In relation to the location of Chelmsford, no information is held. The remainder of your request is exempt under S.31 and S.38 of the Act.

Section 17 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.

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement
Section 38(1) – Health and Safety

Section 31 and 38 are both qualified exemptions and prejudice based therefore both a Public Interest Test and Harm Test are required.

Evidence of Harm

Disclosure under FOIA is a disclosure into the public domain and releasing the requested information would reveal locations where enforcement activity has historically generated the greatest number of detected offences and by virtue the greatest number of prosecutions.

In relation to the road safety camera network, releasing the requested information would provide those with intent to disrupt or disable the safety camera network with valuable information about which sites would result in the greatest impact if targeted. Disclosing the locations of highest volume enforcement sites would draw particular attention to those locations and increase the risk of deliberate interference, vandalism, or damage to camera infrastructure by providing those with intent to disrupt or disable the safety camera network, sites would result in the greatest impact if targeted.

It is recognised and not disputed that enforcement cameras have historically been the subject of criminal damage and attempts to disable their operation. Any increase in the likelihood of vandalism or interference could result in cameras being temporarily unavailable for operational use, reducing the force's ability to enforce and promote road safety. This in turn could increase risks to road users at locations where cameras have been installed specifically because of identified road safety concerns.

Furthermore, disclosing information relating to areas of the highest frequency traffic stops identified by their specific location would accumulate to build a more detailed picture of enforcement tactics and operational priorities. Whilst any single disclosure may appear innocuous, cumulatively, such disclosures can undermine the effectiveness of operational law enforcement goals.

It is publicly known and accepted that not all camera sites are operational at the same time nor is each area patrolled at the same time however, by disclosing information which confirms a specific locations, it would become apparent, across a number of related requests, where road safety cameras have been positioned and where roads safety enforcement is undertaken, and by extension, areas where cameras have not been positioned and areas where enforcement has not been undertaken.

Whilst it is recognised that the requested relates to partly historical data, the resultant “mosaic effect” of multiple disclosures over time risks revealing patterns of activation relevant to the current status of individual specific road safety cameras and roads safety enforcement action. This may be likely to influence driver behaviour and impact road safety, if it is known which areas are prioritised for roads safety enforcement and which cameras are likely non-operational. This would undermine policing tactics in the use of road safety enforcement tactics and cameras as a deterrent and risking public safety on the roads.

Public Interest Test

Section 31 - Factors favouring the disclosure of Information

Disclosure would promote transparency and accountability regarding the use of enforcement and road safety actions taken by the Force. It would also encourage public debate about whether enforcement activity is being targeted proportionately and effectively.

Section 31 - Factors against the disclosure of Information

There is a strong public interest in ensuring that law enforcement tactics and capabilities remain effective. Disclosure would contribute to a cumulative mosaic effect, whereby information released over time could be combined with other data to reveal operational

activity patterns, deployment strategies, and enforcement priorities. The resultant effect would be that the deterrent effect of roads safety enforcement would be prejudiced.

There is a significant public interest in maintaining the force's ability to prevent and detect offences and secure compliance with road traffic legislation. Any information which would undermine that strategy would not be in the public interest to disclose.

Section 38 - Factors favouring the disclosure of Information

Disclosure would identify that the police take their responsibility for public safety on the roads seriously and deploy resources effectively to combat issuing.

Section 38 – Factors against the disclosure of Information

Disclosure may increase the likelihood of targeted vandalism, criminal damage, or interference with camera infrastructure. Any damage to enforcement equipment could reduce road safety enforcement capability at locations identified as requiring intervention. Any reduction in enforcement capability presents an increased risk to road users as offenders will be more inclined to break the speed limit or other such road traffic offences in the knowledge there would be a reduced risk of enforcement action. Excess speed and mobile device usage on the roads contributes directly to collisions, injuries and fatalities and it is not in the public interest for police to release information which would risk contributing to any such result.

Balance Test

Whilst the force recognises the public interest in transparency and accountability, greater weight is attached to the strong public interest in preserving the effectiveness of law enforcement activity, mitigating any targeting, vandalism or disruption of enforcement infrastructure and maintaining the safety of the public. The force considers that disclosure would be likely to prejudice the prevention and detection of offences and undermine the effectiveness of road safety enforcement. Accordingly, the public interest favours maintaining the exemption

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for part of your request.

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