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

Our reference: FOI_26_0942
E-mail: FOI@gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 03/11/2026

Dear

**Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0942**

On 05/10/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information concerning structured immigration-status information held within your custody, arrest or records-management systems.

For clarity, I am not requesting a manual review of individual records, free-text fields, case files, intelligence records, documents or attachments.
I am seeking only information that can be obtained from existing structured fields and existing automated reporting/database functionality.

1. Systems
Please identify the principal system currently used to record arrests/custody records, for example Niche RMS, Athena/Connect or another system.
Please also identify, where readily available, the reporting or Business Intelligence tool used to produce statistical reports from that system, for example Power BI, BOXI or equivalent.

2. Immigration-status fields
Please confirm whether arrest or custody records contain any structured field recording immigration status or an equivalent category.
This might, for example, be called:
“Immigration Status”
“Custody Person Immigration Status”
“Cust Per Immigration Status”
or another equivalent field.
Please provide the name of the field used by your force.

3. Available values

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.

Please provide the selectable values, codes or categories available within that structured field and their definitions.
For example, another UK police force has disclosed categories including:
ASY – Asylum seeker
EXP – Expired status
ILE – Illegal entry
ILL – Illegal immigrant
ILR – Indefinite leave to remain
ILT – Indefinite leave to enter
IMG – Legal immigrant
RCL – Refugee claimant
REF – Refugee
SVA – Student visa
VIS – Legal visitor
WVA – Working visa
I am not assuming your force uses these categories. Please provide the values actually used by your system.

4. Annual arrest-record totals
For each calendar year from 1 January 2018 to the latest date available, please provide the number of arrest/custody records falling within each value of the structured immigration-status field.
Please also provide:
• number recorded as blank / not recorded / unknown;
• total number of arrest records for each year.
I am requesting arrest records rather than unique individuals, unless your existing reporting system only produces figures by individual, in which case please state this.
Please supply the information in spreadsheet or CSV format where possible.

5. Automated reporting
Please confirm whether the figures requested in Question 4 can be obtained through an existing automated query, reporting tool, Business Intelligence system or database report without manually examining individual records.
If yes, please identify the reporting system where readily available.

6. Where information is unavailable
If your force does not have a structured immigration-status field capable of producing these figures, please simply confirm:
“No structured field/report capable of producing the requested figures is held.”
There is no requirement to search free-text records to answer this request.
If the field or reporting capability was introduced during the requested period, please provide figures from the earliest date for which they are electronically retrievable and state that date.
Cost limit / Section 12
This request has deliberately been restricted to structured information and automated reporting.

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

1. Niche RMS

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.

The following exemption applies for parts 2-6 of your request.

Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 43(2) exempts information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any legal person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).

This exemption is qualified and subject to the prejudice test and the public interest test. Whilst undertaking the prejudice test, the Force must consider if disclosure of the requested information would, or would be likely to, prejudice our own commercial interests or the commercial interests of an engaged third party. The disclosure of information via the Act, is considered to be a release into the wider public domain and whilst the Act places a presumption towards disclosing information where possible, considerations must also be given to releasing information into the public domain beyond the requester and any such associated risks of harm through disclosing the requested information.

The disclosure of information relating to the Force's use, and specific configuration of its Crime Management System (CMS) would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both the Force and the supplier. Considerations must be given to the information being released in isolation and alongside information which is already present within the public domain. In relation to disclosing the requested information, it could provide competitors valuable insight and significant into the CMS’s functions and proprietary information through specific disclosure of processes and structured fields.

Additionally, disclosure would be likely to prejudice the Force's own commercial interests by weakening its negotiating position in future procurement activities such as renewal and any contact management discussions.

It can be argued that this disclosure would advantageously assist any competitors seeking to form a similar project with structure and function design, whilst this may ultimately lead to new products being placed on the open market for CMSs which may indirectly benefit the Force through a wider range of products and suppliers to engage in procurement processes, on the other hand suppliers may note the disclosure of this information and no longer seek to engage in the procurement process or supply their products to the Force owing to the knowledge that material identified as commercially sensitive could subsequently be disclosed into the public domain.

There is a real and significant likelihood that disclosure would impact the Force and the supplier's ability to compete fairly within the marketplace and could adversely affect the Force's ability to secure best value for money from future contracts.

## Public Interest Test

### Factors Favouring Disclosure

Where public funds are being spent, there is a public interest in accountability and justification. Additionally, disclosing the requested information would provide public insight into how Constabulary systems operate and may increase public confidence in Policing as the Constabulary would demonstrate having an effective CMS in place.

### Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

The requested information is not publicly disseminated or available to competitors. Doing so would release commercially sensitive information into the public domain and risk prejudicing the commercial interests of a supplier which is actively engaged in supplying the Constabulary a CMS product.

It would harm the ability of the Constabulary to negotiate contracts with current and future suppliers, if information in relation to the core CMS functions were released. There is a real and significant likelihood that disclosure would impact both the Force and the supplier's ability to compete fairly within the marketplace and could adversely affect the Force's ability to secure best value for money from future contracts and any ongoing CMS product support.

Should suppliers actively avoid engaging in the Constabulary procurement process through concerns around the disclosure of commercially sensitive information, it may result in remaining potential suppliers negotiating at a disadvantage to the Constabulary and may also give companies the ability to drive contract costs up. The Constabulary are likely to want to maintain or reduce current costs, posing a risk of creating a single supplier market for CMS products would be harmful for the Constabulary and the public as Constabulary funds are intrinsically linked to the public purse. The public would not expect the Constabulary to conduct actions which may result in increased costs incurred.

## Balance Test

With regards to Section 43, the Act states that information is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). On balance, the damage incurred by release of this information, including the possibility of increased public expenditure in the future, outweighs the benefit of accountability for public funds or in-depth system understanding.

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