

Gloucestershire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
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www.gloucestershire.police.uk



Our reference: FOI_26_0950

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Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 23/10/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0950

On 07/10/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Dear FOI Team,

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you provide the following information for each of the financial years 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26:

1. The total number of missing person incidents involving children aged 17 or under recorded by your force.
2. Of those missing person incidents involving children aged 17 or under, the number where a child sexual exploitation (CSE) marker, flag or equivalent vulnerability marker was recorded against the missing person incident.

I am seeking aggregate figures only and am not requesting any personal data or information that could identify individual children.

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

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 relation to your request, please see the below table which shows the number of missing person incidents involving under 18s broken down by the requested financial years. The number of missing incidents relating to individuals under the age of 18 with child at risk of exploitation (CE) marker is also displayed within the table.

	No. of Incidents Apr 21 - March 22	No. of Incidents Apr 22 - March 23	No. of Incidents Apr 23 - March 24	No. of Incidents Apr 24 - March 25	No. of Incidents Apr 25 - March 26
Missing Incidents of U18s	1325	1450	973	957	3018
Missing Incidents of U18s with CE Marker	92	176	191	247	1114

In relation to the data provided, it is key to note that the significant increase in reported incidents during the financial year of 2025/26 is largely attributable to changes in recording practices and changes in Constabulary systems used to record missing person incidents. Therefore, data from previous years is not directly comparable with the data of 2025/26.

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