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

Our reference: FOI_26_0951
E-mail: FOI @gloucestershire.police.uk
Direct dial: 01452 754304
Postal Address: As above
Date: 2/11/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request for: 26_0951

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

Please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am only asking for information held in structured fields on your crime recording system (such as offence type, property type, date and location). I am not asking you to read crime reports or free-text notes.

For each calendar year 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, and for 1 January to 30 September 2026:

1. The number of recorded crimes where a mobile phone was recorded as stolen property.

2. The figures in question 1, split by crime type: robbery of personal property, theft from the person, theft from a vehicle, burglary, and other theft.

3. The figures in question 1, split by ward. If ward is not available, please use postcode district or the smallest area you routinely use (such as neighbourhood policing area).

4. The figures in question 1, split by month.

5. How many of the crimes in question 1 resulted in a charge or summons.

6. If recorded in a structured field, the make of phone stolen (for example Apple, Samsung, Google).

7. If recorded in a structured field, the type of location (for example street, public transport, licensed premises, event venue).

8. If readily available, the figure in question 1 for 2019.

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 information in a spreadsheet (Excel or CSV).

If answering every question would exceed the cost limit, please answer questions 1 to 3 first and let me know how the remainder could be narrowed, in line with your duty to advise and assist under section 16.

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

Following receipt of your request, a subject matter expert (SME) conducted an initial search of the Constabulary's crime recording system for theft (stolen property) data. Due to a recent change in the Constabulary's recording systems, we cannot currently see property data regarding items such as mobile phones. The initial search returned over 22,000 records for the period you request, which would require a manual review to determine any relevance to the questions asked. We have confidently estimated that this will exceed the 18 hours allowed by the Freedom of Information Act, therefore Section 12 of the Act is engaged.

Please see below for suggestions on how you may be able to refine your request to come within the cost constraints of Section 12 of the 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.

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