

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



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_26_0573

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 10/07/2026

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_26_0573

On 13/06/2026 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

Please provide the following:

- 1) The number of arrests for Under 18s carrying an illegal knife/ bladed article in the past four calendar years (2022-2025) and up to June 2026.
- 2) Please break the figures down by calendar year.
- 3) Please break down the figures by age.
- 4) Please specify the youngest age to be arrested each year

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

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

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.

A search was conducted for detentions between 01/01/2022 to 09/02/2026 (this had to be reduced to February due to data migration to Gloucestershire Constabulary's recording system. The data post February while stored is currently not in a searchable format for statistics. This is currently being worked on so will be available in the future.) where the

offence was either CJ88144 - Possess knife blade / sharp pointed article in a public place - Criminal Justice Act 1988 or CJ88152 - Possess article with blade / sharply pointed article on school / further education premises. This has then been filtered by where the suspect were aged 0-17. Due to the need to redact certain information to protect personal details the ages have been supplied as age ranges with no specific ages given. The following data is present:

Year	0 - 12	13 - 17	Grand Total
2022		23	23
2023		25	25
2024	1	17	18
2025		20	20
2026		1	1
Grand Total	1	86	87

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