



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

FOI ref no: 13500

11th August 2021

Freedom of Information request: reference 13500, first notified to us by email on 2nd August 2021. Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as detailed below:

1. Which types of events are policed by L3 (level 3) PSU officers in Staffordshire?
 - 1a. Are these events individually assessed for potential risks to PSU officers?
2. Are male constables/sergeants required to wear custodian helmets on L3 public order duties?
3. Are female constables/sergeants ever permitted or required to wear custodian helmets on L3 public order duties?
 - 3a. If so, are female constables issued their own custodian helmets to keep?
 - 3b. If not, are they instead required to wear bowler hats?
4. When, if ever, are officers permitted or required to wear their chinstraps on L3 public order duties?
5. Are officers required to wear fluorescent clothing on L3 public order duties?
6. Are any other uniform items issued specifically for L3 public order duties?
7. Do these L3 public order uniform policies differ for senior officers (inspectors, superintendents, etc.) and/or special constables?
8. Do these L3 public order uniform policies change when officers are deployed in other counties for mutual aid?

**Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:
Staffordshire Police does hold the requested information.**

1. Which types of events are policed by L3 (level 3) PSU officers in Staffordshire?

Any event where it is the assessment of the Silver Commander that the level of threat and risk is such that the use of level 3 tactics/officers is suitable and proportionate.

 - 1a. Are these events individually assessed for potential risks to PSU officers?

All events are subject to triage within the planning unit, if an event reaches a certain threshold it is allocated to a Silver Commander to make an assessment of threat and risk. Through this process an assessment will be made as to the risks to officers and this will inform the decision making around the most suitable resource to deploy.

2. Are male constables/sergeants required to wear custodian helmets on L3 public order duties?

Yes it is a deployment in 'normal' street uniform.

3. Are female constables/sergeants ever permitted or required to wear custodian helmets on L3 public order duties?

L3 would ordinarily be custodian helmets for male officers and bowlers for females but female officers can request a custodian helmet if preferred.

3a. If so, are female constables issued their own custodian helmets to keep?

Female officers are issued with custodian helmets as part of level 2 uniform.

3b. If not, are they instead required to wear bowler hats?

Yes unless specifically requesting a custodian helmet.

4. When, if ever, are officers permitted or required to wear their chinstraps on L3 public order duties?

This is a matter of personal choice and consideration would need to be given to the prevailing circumstances.

5. Are officers required to wear fluorescent clothing on L3 public order duties?

As this would be considered 'normal' street uniform then this would be the default position but each event will be assessed on the individual circumstances and the Silver Commander would make the decision as to whether this was suitable.

6. Are any other uniform items issued specifically for L3 public order duties?

No.

7. Do these L3 public order uniform policies differ for senior officers (inspectors, superintendents, etc.) and/or special constables?

No, the only exception would be that senior officers would ordinarily deploy in a flat hat.

8. Do these L3 public order uniform policies change when officers are deployed in other counties for mutual aid?

Mutual aid deployments would seek to establish a degree of uniformity across all attending forces and it would be a decision for the receiving silver to determine what that consistency might look like. This would usually be established at the point of requesting support from any sending force.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

foi@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford



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ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit

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