



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

FOI ref no: 14481

22nd June 2022

Freedom of Information request: reference 14481, first notified to us by email on 14th June 2022.

Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as detailed below:

1. For crimes closed in each year (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021) with the outcome "investigation complete (no suspect identified)", how long on average did the investigation last from the time the crime was recorded to the point the investigation closed. Please give the breakdown for the following crimes:

- a) Residential burglary
- b) Business burglary
- c) Theft from the person
- d) Bicycle theft
- e) Theft of a vehicle
- f) Theft from a vehicle

2. For the crime of residential burglary, how many crimes included a visit to the property which was reported to have been burgled. Please supply the data for 2017-2021 inclusive and the overall number of residential burglaries reported in each year.

Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

On behalf of Staffordshire Police I wish to advise you that whilst I can confirm that Staffordshire Police does hold the information requested, the force claims the provision under Section 12(1) of the Act (where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit). 'Section 1(1) 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 prescribed limit'.

This is because there is no easy retrievable system to extract data to answer questions 1 and 2. With regards to question 1, there are over 36,000 records which would need individually reviewing to establish the time between the investigations being opened to when they were finished. In relation to question 2, there are over 12,000 records which again would need reviewing to identify if an officer had visited the property that was reported to have been burgled. Both of these tasks would require a very labour intensive manual trawl through thousands of records to obtain the required data. To achieve this task would exceed the 18 hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act.



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To assist in refining your request, data can be provided for a yearly breakdown of totals for the specified crimes along with the outcomes if this would be suitable.

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.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

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

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit

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