



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

FOI ref no: 14490

24th June 2022

Freedom of Information request: reference 14490, first notified to us by email on 15th June 2022.

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

Where possible, please could you provide me with the following figures for the year April 2021 - March 2022 (if you do not collect or cannot provide data for one of the categories below, please provide data for the categories that you do or can provide data for):

How many people has the force identified as victims of 'cuckooing' i.e. the practice of taking over the home of an individual in order to establish a base for the purpose of criminal activity?

Of those people identified as victims of cuckooing how many were:

(a) male

(b) female

(c) under the age of 18

(d) over the age of 65

(e) vulnerable adults

(f) dependent on drugs or alcohol

(g) disabled or learning disabled

(h) unemployed

Of those people identified as victims of cuckooing how many have been

(a) arrested, and

(b) charged with criminal offences related to the activities taking place in their property.

Of those people identified as victims of cuckooing who were subsequently arrested and charged with criminal offences related to the activities taking place in their property, which offences were they charged with?



How many people has the force identified as perpetrators of 'cuckooing'?

Of those identified as perpetrators of 'cuckooing' how many were:

- (a) male*
- (b) female*
- (c) vulnerable adults*
- (d) aged 16 - 17*
- (e) aged 15 or under*

Of those identified as perpetrators of 'cuckooing' how many have been:

- (a) arrested, and*
- (b) charged with criminal offences related to the cuckooing activity?*

Of those people identified as perpetrators of cuckooing who were subsequently arrested and charged with criminal offences related to the cuckooing activity?:

*which offences were they charged with?
how many people were charged under
section 1 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 or section 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015?*

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 this request. There is no offence code for 'cuckooing' so to identify how many properties are currently suspected of being involved in 'cuckooing' would require a manual review of thousands of individual records. This would include all concern for welfare/suspicious occurrence records as well as all records relating to drugs activity, to establish what is held. To achieve this task would exceed the 18 hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act.



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Unfortunately, I am unable to suggest a way in which your request can be simplified to offer a refinement.

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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