

9 August 2024

FOI Ref 16234

Request - You asked us the following:

Please provide the following;

1. Confirmation of whether or not you have adopted the NPCC guidance, approved Dec 2021, on transgender officers being able to strip search members of the opposite sex.
2. If not yet adopted, the date you anticipate it will be implemented by.
3. What consultation (specifying which groups) has been carried out as part of the (potential) implementation process
4. Date and copy of any equality impact assessment carried out as part of this process
5. Copy of your transgender staff / search policy
6. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to any person objecting to a strip search by an officer who they believe is of the opposite sex - confirm whether this will be recorded as a hate crime/non-crime hate incident
7. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to female officers/staff being required to strip search natal males, and whether you will support them not having to carry out these as part of their duties where the individual requires a female officer/staff.

For clarity, I require this information in respect of;

- A. Searches outside of the formal custody office setting, usually referred to as 'street searches' and
- B. Searches in the formal custody office setting.

We received your request on 23/11/2023 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

Staffordshire Police holds the following requested information.

1. Confirmation of whether or not you have adopted the NPCC guidance, approved Dec 2021, on transgender officers being able to strip search members of the opposite sex.
Information held
2. If not yet adopted, the date you anticipate it will be implemented by.
No Information held (Not Applicable).
3. What consultation (specifying which groups) has been carried out as part of the (potential) implementation process
No information held.
4. Date and copy of any equality impact assessment carried out as part of this process
No information held.
5. Copy of your transgender staff / search policy
No information held.



6. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to any person objecting to a strip search by an officer who they believe is of the opposite sex - confirm whether this will be recorded as a hate crime/non-crime hate incident

No information held.

7. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to female officers/staff being required to strip search natal males, and whether you will support them not having to carry out these as part of their duties where the individual requires a female officer/staff.

For clarity, I require this information in respect of;

A. Searches outside of the formal custody office setting, usually referred to as 'street searches' and

B. Searches in the formal custody office setting

No information held.

Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.

- 1. Confirmation of whether or not you have adopted the NPCC guidance, approved Dec 2021, on transgender officers being able to strip search members of the opposite sex.

Yes.

- 2. If not yet adopted, the date you anticipate it will be implemented by.

Not Applicable.

- 3. What consultation (specifying which groups) has been carried out as part of the (potential) implementation process

No information held.

- 4. Date and copy of any equality impact assessment carried out as part of this process

No information held.

- 5. Copy of your transgender staff / search policy

No information held. At the time this FOI request was made, Staffordshire Police did not have a specific policy with regard to transgender officers carrying out searches.

- 6. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to any person objecting to a strip search by an officer who they believe is of the opposite sex - confirm whether this will be recorded as a hate crime/non-crime hate incident

Please note that the FOI Act 2000 only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to create information to answer questions generally; only if the information is already held in recorded form.

The Act does not extend to requests for information regarding the application or implementation of policies, or the merits or demerits of any proposal or action.



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- 7. Confirm what your policy will be with regard to female officers/staff being required to strip search natal males, and whether you will support them not having to carry out these as part of their duties where the individual requires a female officer/staff.

For clarity, I require this information in respect of;

A. Searches outside of the formal custody office setting, usually referred to as 'street searches' and

B. Searches in the formal custody office setting

Please note that the FOI Act 2000 only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to create information to answer questions generally; only if the information is already held in recorded form.

The Act does not extend to requests for information regarding the application or implementation of policies, or the merits or demerits of any proposal or action.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response.

If you would like us to carry out a review of our response, please let us know within two months of the date of receipt of this email, review requests 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