

6 August 2024

FOI Ref 16401

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to request information regarding the organisation of local policing and the local response to crime and disorder.

I am interested in the unit of organisation commonly referred to as Local Policing Areas, Divisions, Districts or Basic Command Units. They are typically aligned to local authority or community safety partnership boundaries.

For each of these areas within your force, I would like to know:

- the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code (these are typically a 9-digit string comprising the letter E followed by 8 numerical characters), and any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography.
 - the first and last name and rank of the current senior officer responsible (often known as the 'local commander' or similar) for the policing of that area, the date they were appointed, and an email address for the individual or position.
 - the first and last name and rank of the the last two senior officers in that post, and the dates they were in the roles
 - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be one or more local authorities, or community safety partnerships, or similar)
- Further, for each of the above areas a list of the smaller geographic areas that your force uses to organise and deliver local policing (these might commonly be called 'neighbourhoods' and will typically either be an individual ward or a collection of wards), including:
- the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code, any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography
 - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be an individual ward or a collection of wards).

We received your request on 21/01/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

Staffordshire Police holds the following requested information.

For each of these areas within your force, I would like to know:

- - the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code (these are typically a 9-digit string comprising the letter E followed by 8 numerical characters), and any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography. – **Partial information held.**

- - the first and last name and rank of the current senior officer responsible (often known as the 'local commander' or similar) for the policing of that area, the date they were appointed, and an email address for the individual or position. – **Information held.**
- - the first and last name and rank of the last two senior officers in that post, and the dates they were in the roles – **Information held.**
- - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be one or more local authorities, or community safety partnerships, or similar) – **Information held.**

Further, for each of the above areas a list of the smaller geographic areas that your force uses to organise and deliver local policing (these might commonly be called 'neighbourhoods' and will typically either be an individual ward or a collection of wards), including:

- - the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code, any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography – **Information held.**
- - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be an individual ward or a collection of wards). – **Information held.**

Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.

For each of these areas within your force, I would like to know:

- - the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code (these are typically a 9-digit string comprising the letter E followed by 8 numerical characters), and any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography. – **Withheld.**
- - the first and last name and rank of the current senior officer responsible (often known as the 'local commander' or similar) for the policing of that area, the date they were appointed, and an email address for the individual or position. – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16401 Local Policing and Local Response to Crime and Disorder data.CSV'.**
- - the first and last name and rank of the last two senior officers in that post, and the dates they were in the roles – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16401 Local Policing and Local Response to Crime and Disorder data.CSV'.**
- - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be one or more local authorities, or community safety partnerships, or similar) – **Withheld.**

Further, for each of the above areas a list of the smaller geographic areas that your force uses to organise and deliver local policing (these might commonly be called 'neighbourhoods' and will typically either be an individual ward or a collection of wards), including:

- - the name of the area, any corresponding ONS geographical code, any short string code used by the force as shorthand to represent the geography – **Withheld.**

- - if no ONS code is provided: a description of the geographic extent of the area and the boundaries to which it is aligned (this might be an individual ward or a collection of wards). – **Withheld.**

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of our ability, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software.

Every effort is made to ensure that the data presented is accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that this has been extracted from multiple sources, developed for specific policing purposes, for which data extraction methods have not been specifically designed to directly correlate with the terminology of this request. Therefore, the data presented is subject to the inaccuracies and idiosyncrasies inherent in any large-scale recording system.

As a consequence, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, so as to not misrepresent the whole or any part of the data disclosed.

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

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

The information can already be found within the public domain.

To release personal or third-party information held by Staffordshire Police, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant.

The following exemptions have been applied:

- Section 21(1) - Information reasonably accessible by other means.

Section 21 is an absolute, class-based exemption and as such there is no requirement to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure, nor is there a requirement to perform a Public Interest Test.



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- **Section 40(2) Personal Information**

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

Advice and assistance

In order to comply with our obligations under Section 16 of the Act, the obligation to provide advice and assistance, please find below links to the information requested.

- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/au/about-us/force-structure/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/cannock-chase/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/east-staffordshire/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/lichfield-district/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/staffordshire-moorlands/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/newcastle-district/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/stafford-borough/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/south-staffordshire/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/stoke-on-trent-north/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/stoke-on-trent-south/>
- <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/area/your-area/staffordshire/tamworth/>
- <https://data.police.uk/data/boundaries/>

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



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Central Disclosure Unit

A safe and confident Staffordshire