



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

16 August 2024

FOI Ref 16478

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to request access to information regarding the prevalence of sexual crime against children in the UK. I have requested the same information from all forces in the UK. I have several requests, which I have aggregated below, rather than send them separately - however, if this will exceed the cost limit, please let me know and I will send them separately.

Where all of the following conditions apply:

- a. financial year 2021/22
- b. the offence code was in use by Staffordshire during the timeframe
- c. one or more victims is under 18 at time of incident

please state, per offence code, how many of the following crimes were recorded by Staffordshire, broken down by crime outcome code (1-22), and whether the victim was under 18, 18 and over, or where victim age is unknown:

1. Abduction (Home Office offence codes: 02500, 02501, 02502, 02503, 02504, 02505)
2. Soliciting by a man (Home Office offence codes: 02700)
3. Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography (Home Office offence codes: 07100, 07101, 07102, 07103, 07104, 07105, 07106, 07107, 07108, 07109, 07110, 07111, 07112, 07113, 07114, 07115, 07117)
4. Trafficking For Sexual Exploitation (Home Office offence codes: 07200, 07201, 07202, 07203, 07204, 07205, 07206)
5. Abuse of Trust - Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 07300, 07301, 07302, 07303, 07304, 07305, 07306, 07307, 07308, 07309, 07310, 07311, 07312, 07313, 07314, 07315, 07316, 07317, 07318)
6. Gross Indecency with Children (Home Office offence codes: 07400, 07401, 07402)
7. Obscene publications etc and protected sexual material (Home Office offence codes: 08600, 08601, 08602, 08603, 08604, 08605, 08606, 08607, 08608, 08609, 08610, 08611, 08612, 08613, 08614, 08615, 08616, 08617)
8. Miscellaneous Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 08800, 08801, 08802, 08803, 08804, 08805, 08806, 08807, 08809, 08810, 08811)

Please note that some of these offences may be superseded by newer offence codes and no longer used - if that is the case, please report a zero result for that code.

We received your request on 06/02/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

Staffordshire Police holds the following requested information.

- Where all of the following conditions apply:
 - a. financial year 2021/22
 - b. the offence code was in use by Staffordshire during the timeframe

c. one or more victims is under 18 at time of incident
please state, per offence code, how many of the following crimes were recorded by Staffordshire, broken down by crime outcome code (1-22), and whether the victim was under 18, 18 and over, or where victim age is unknown: - **Information held.**

1. Abduction (Home Office offence codes: 02500, 02501, 02502, 02503, 02504, 02505) - **Information held.**
2. Soliciting by a man (Home Office offence codes: 02700) - **Information held.**
3. Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography (Home Office offence codes: 07100, 07101, 07102, 07103, 07104, 07105, 07106, 07107, 07108, 07109, 07110, 07111, 07112, 07113, 07114, 07115, 07117) - **Information held.**
4. Trafficking For Sexual Exploitation (Home Office offence codes: 07200, 07201, 07202, 07203, 07204, 07205, 07206) - **Information held.**
5. Abuse of Trust - Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 07300, 07301, 07302, 07303, 07304, 07305, 07306, 07307, 07308, 07309, 07310, 07311, 07312, 07313, 07314, 07315, 07316, 07317, 07318) - **Information held.**
6. Gross Indecency with Children (Home Office offence codes: 07400, 07401, 07402) - **Information held.**
7. Obscene publications etc and protected sexual material (Home Office offence codes: 08600, 08601, 08602, 08603, 08604, 08605, 08606, 08607, 08608, 08609, 08610, 08611, 08612, 08613, 08614, 08615, 08616, 08617) - **Information held.**
8. Miscellaneous Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 08800, 08801, 08802, 08803, 08804, 08805, 08806, 08807, 08809, 08810, 08811) - **Information held.**

Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.

- Where all of the following conditions apply:
 - a. financial year 2021/22
 - b. the offence code was in use by Staffordshire during the timeframe
 - c. one or more victims is under 18 at time of incident
 please state, per offence code, how many of the following crimes were recorded by Staffordshire, broken down by crime outcome code (1-22), and whether the victim was under 18, 18 and over, or where victim age is unknown: - **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**
- 1. Abduction (Home Office offence codes: 02500, 02501, 02502, 02503, 02504, 02505) – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**



2. Soliciting by a man (Home Office offence codes: 02700) – **Disclosed – nil.**
3. Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography (Home Office offence codes: 07100, 07101, 07102, 07103, 07104, 07105, 07106, 07107, 07108, 07109, 07110, 07111, 07112, 07113, 07114, 07115, 07117) – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**
4. Trafficking For Sexual Exploitation (Home Office offence codes: 07200, 07201, 07202, 07203, 07204, 07205, 07206) – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**
5. Abuse of Trust - Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 07300, 07301, 07302, 07303, 07304, 07305, 07306, 07307, 07308, 07309, 07310, 07311, 07312, 07313, 07314, 07315, 07316, 07317, 07318) – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**
6. Gross Indecency with Children (Home Office offence codes: 07400, 07401, 07402) – **Disclosed – nil.**
7. Obscene publications etc and protected sexual material (Home Office offence codes: 08600, 08601, 08602, 08603, 08604, 08605, 08606, 08607, 08608, 08609, 08610, 08611, 08612, 08613, 08614, 08615, 08616, 08617) – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**
8. Miscellaneous Sexual Offences (Home Office offence codes: 08800, 08801, 08802, 08803, 08804, 08805, 08806, 08807, 08809, 08810, 08811) - **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 16478 Sexual Offences Against Children data.CSV'.**

All offences within the request have been included within our searches, any not included within the dataset provided indicate a nil recording for that offence.

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. Additional offences may have been recorded during these timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

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:

Several matters within the dataset provided currently remain ongoing at this time. Disclosure of further details relating to these occurrences at this time would prejudice police activities both for ongoing and future investigations, and would be likely to cause significant harm to the law enforcement function of Staffordshire Police and the administration of justice.

The following exemptions have been applied:

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations

Section 30 is qualified and prejudice-based and, as such, we are required to evidence the harm in disclosure and apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. Staffordshire Police is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

Balance test

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors we are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. In this instance, it is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response.



STAFFORDSHIRE
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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