

20 August 2024

FOI Ref 16891

Request - You asked us the following:

- The number of police callouts to Adult Gaming Centres (AGCs) since the third quarter of 2021, broken down quarterly if possible.
- Any accompanying information on the reason for the callout, including police reports.
- Any information you may hold about the number of licenced AGC premises within the area covered by your service.

We received your request on 21/05/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

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

Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.

- The number of police callouts to Adult Gaming Centres (AGCs) since the third quarter of 2021, broken down quarterly if possible. – **Withheld.**
- Any accompanying information on the reason for the callout, including police reports. – **Withheld.**
- Any information you may hold about the number of licenced AGC premises within the area covered by your service. – **Withheld.**

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which we can easily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 14,000 reports of incidents whereby the location type was not listed. Therefore, in order to determine whether the incident occurred in an Adult Gaming Centre, the record for each incident report would require manual review.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 3 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 700 hours. To achieve this task would

therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information Act by some considerable margin.

The following exemptions have been applied:

- Section 12(1) where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.
Section 12(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'.

Advice and assistance

Section 16 of the Act places an obligation upon the Authority to provide advice and assistance, in order to comply with this obligation please see below.

Should you remove the requirement to provide data for questions 1 and 2 , it would be possible to provide a response to question 3; however, Staffordshire Police only holds partial information relating to the number of Adult Gaming Centres within our jurisdiction. The Local Authority and Gambling Commission manage and administer Adult Gaming Centres, so the complete information you require may be held by these organisations.

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
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