

21 August 2024

FOI Ref 17009

**Request - You asked us the following:**

How many police hours and the cost of policing the UAV engine site in Lynn Lane Shenstone WS14 0DT over the last three years.

We received your request on 03/07/2024 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.**

- How many police hours and the cost of policing the UAV engine site in Lynn Lane Shenstone WS14 0DT over the last three years. – **Withheld.**

**The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:**

The work required to process this request would trigger the time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI Act.

Such protest can occur in one of two ways, either by way of a scheduled planned protest or as unplanned or spontaneous incidents. Within our finance system, policing of any scheduled or planned protests will be issued a specific cost centre code and all costs over and above regular duties charged to this. However, this cost centre code would not be charged for deployments to planned protests where this occurred within any officer's regular tour of duty, the cost centre therefore only contains expenditure for deployments over and above officers' regular duties. Likewise, with any unplanned or spontaneous protests, deployments would form part of an officers' regular duties and not be costed separately, even where this exceeded the duration of a regular tour of duty.

Since 2021, the date upon which a cost code was established, there have been over 130 incidents, each requiring manual research to determine whether the incident related to protest activity. Once established further research would then be required to determine the number of officers and amount of resource deployed to each incident and the duration of involvement.

From this data the rank/pay grade of each officer would need to be established and whether they were attending as part of their regular duty or part of an extended duty (overtime).

Based on dip sampling, from 2021 alone, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 10 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 22 hours, with further time required for 2022, 2023 and 2024. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information Act.

**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.

Unfortunately, we cannot suggest a way in which your request could be simplified or pared down in order to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold.

**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](mailto: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