

20 September 2024

FOI Ref 17103

Request - You asked us the following:

By year since 2019:

Where you have figures, the number of road traffic collisions in which records show the Tesla Autopilot driver assistance system was active before the collision.

Where you have figures, the number of road traffic fatal collisions in which records show the Tesla Autopilot driver assistance system was active before the collision.

For each fatal collision, if possible, could you provide a short description of the incident, including who the fatalities were (driver, passenger, those in other vehicle, pedestrian, etc)

We received your request on 29/07/2024 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.

By year since 2019:

- Where you have figures, the number of road traffic collisions in which records show the Tesla Autopilot driver assistance system was active before the collision. – **Withheld.**
- Where you have figures, the number of road traffic fatal collisions in which records show the Tesla Autopilot driver assistance system was active before the collision. – **Withheld.**
- For each fatal collision, if possible, could you provide a short description of the incident, including who the fatalities were (driver, passenger, those in other vehicle, pedestrian, etc) – **Withheld.**

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which we can readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request.. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 2,400 collision reports involving a car. In order to determine whether the car involved was a Tesla, and whether the autopilot driver assistance system was active, the report for each collision would require manual review.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 5 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 200 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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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

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