

20 September 2024

FOI Ref 17122

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

Please provide the below listed documents, which are made reference to in the attached document.

STORM - Call Type Comments (Procedure)

STORM - Dedicated Call Signs (Procedure)

STORM - Location Comments (Procedure)

STORM - Location tagging (Procedure)

STORM - View Rated Incidents (Procedure)

STORM - Call Type Comments; STORM - Dedicated Call Signs; STORM - Location Comments; STORM - Location tagging; STORM -

We received your request on 05/08/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

**Staffordshire Police holds the following requested information.**

Please provide the below listed documents, which are made reference to in the attached document.

- STORM - Call Type Comments (Procedure) – **Information held.**
- STORM - Dedicated Call Signs (Procedure) – **Information held.**
- STORM - Location Comments (Procedure) – **Information held.**
- STORM - Location tagging (Procedure) – **Information held.**
- STORM - View Rated Incidents (Procedure) – **Information held.**
- STORM - Call Type Comments; STORM - Dedicated Call Signs; STORM - Location Comments; STORM - Location tagging; STORM – **Information held.**

**Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.**

- STORM - Call Type Comments (Procedure) – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17122 Storm Policies – Procedures.PDF'**
- STORM - Dedicated Call Signs (Procedure) – **Withheld.**
- STORM - Location Comments (Procedure) – **Withheld.**



- STORM - Location tagging (Procedure) – **Withheld.**
- STORM - View Rated Incidents (Procedure) – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17122 Storm Policies – Procedures.PDF'**
- STORM - Call Type Comments; STORM - Dedicated Call – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17122 Storm Policies – Procedures.PDF'**

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

To provide the operating procedures for the force's incident reporting system could undermine existing or future investigations, operations and police tactics. It would allow those with ill intent to cause disruption to operational policing and prejudice the prevention and detection of crime.

**The following exemptions have been applied:**

- Section 31 (1) (a) (b) - Law Enforcement.

Information is exempt from disclosure under S31 (1) (a) (b) where the release of Information would, or would likely to, prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and/ or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. This exemption 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**

To disclose this information would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent, it would also lead to a better public awareness of the workings of the police force and the communications used with operations and during routine policing.

**Factors favouring non-disclosure**

Releasing such data would give those individuals with the intent to do so, the intelligence required to disrupt police activity. This knowledge would allow those with ill intent to target their offending more effectively which would inevitably lead to an increased likelihood of criminal activity and an increased danger to the public. Any disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

**Balancing Test**

When considering whether disclosure is appropriate, we must weigh the strongest reason for disclosure against the strongest reasons for non-disclosure. In this case, whilst the factors favouring disclosure are important in that it would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent, we believe when weighed against the risk of disclosure undermining our ability to prevent and detect crime and hindering our ability to protect the public, then non-disclosure takes precedence.



STAFFORDSHIRE  
**POLICE**

### **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