

15 October 2024

FOI Ref 17261

Request - You asked us the following:

I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). The request relates to the Stalking Protection Act (2019) and is for an updated version of a request I sent in February.

Please can you answer the following questions for 2024 only and let me know the latest date the data covers:

1. How many Stalking Prevention Orders were issued?
- a. I would appreciate if you could group the SPOs issued by the age groups <18, 18-64, and >64.
2. How many arrests were made under suspicion of stalking?
3. How many breaches of Stalking Prevention Orders were recorded?
4. How many reports of stalking were recorded?

We received your request on 17/09/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:

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

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'.

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 question 4 of this request. Staffordshire Police do not have a call type description specifically to stalking, our call type descriptions combine both harassment and stalking and family domestic including stalking incidents. For the time period requested there have been over of 14,210 incidents. In order to determine whether each incident related purely to stalking would entail a time consuming manual review of each incident log.

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 in excess of 710 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act by some considerable margin.

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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

In order to assist in refining your request. Should you retract question 4. Data could be provided for the remainder of your request. However, please note further exemptions may apply.

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