

23 October 2024

FOI Ref 17313

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

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act, please can you provide the following:

1. The number of rape and sexual offences recorded from September 2023 - September 2024?  
Can this be broken down by type of sexual offence plus age of victim and age of suspect/perpetrator

1a) Of those, how many were charged?  
Can this be presented in PDF format?

We received your request on 01/10/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

**Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.**

- 1. The number of rape and sexual offences recorded from September 2023 - September 2024?  
Can this be broken down by type of sexual offence plus age of victim and age of suspect/perpetrator – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17313 Sexual Offences Data.PDF'.**
- 1a) Of those, how many were charged? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17313 Sexual Offences Data.PDF'.**

Please note that there are a number of offences that are still being investigated so with regard to these cases we are citing Section 30(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Investigations conducted by Public Authorities.

**The following exemptions have been applied:**

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

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations  
Section 30 is qualified and class based and, as such, we are required to apply the public interest test.

## **Public Interest Test**

### **Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)**

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

### **Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)**

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. Staffordshire Police is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

### **Balance test**

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors we are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

## **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