

28 October 2024

FOI Ref 17333

Request - You asked us the following:

Is there a summary possible for each of the 500+ cases (depends on whether it exceeds 500 by a large amount - if it does, answer may be no) and date they were found/discovered (dd/mm/yy)? Please provide preferably by PDF.

We received your request on 07/10/2024 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 easily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. Within our archive database and live recording system, there have been in excess of 500 occurrences. Manual research would need to be conducted on each individual record to determine the details of the case as no summary exists and the Freedom of Information Act does not require us to create data. Furthermore, we would have to trawl through each occurrence to establish the date they were found/discovered.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 30 to 60 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this has been estimated to equate to between 250 to 500 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.

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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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