

30 October 2024

FOI Ref 17366

Request - You asked us the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:

- The number of delivery couriers who were attacked during deliveries each year
- The number of delivery couriers who were killed during deliveries each year
- The number of delivery couriers who were victim of theft during deliveries each year
- The number of delivery couriers who died during deliveries each year
- The number of delivery couriers who were injured during deliveries each year

If possible/marked, these should include couriers working include Deliveroo, Just Eat Takeaway and Uber Eats.

Please provide the data for the following years, separately, 2024 (year to date), 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019. If necessary so as not to exceed the cost/time limit, please refine this to 2024, 2023 and 2022, and solely provide the attacked and killed figures.

In the event that you exercise an exemption on any of the above data, please could you supply me with the cumulative numbers.

There is a clear legitimate public interest in this disclosure. Delivery couriers are a vulnerable population and there should be transparency about the health and safety of workers.

We received your request on 15/10/2024 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 readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. Although there is an occupation field on our crime recording database this is not mandatory to complete, therefore there are many blank fields. There are over 129,000 relevant occurrences that would need



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individually reviewing to identify whether the victim involved was a delivery driver, and whether the crime committed occurred whilst the driver was at work. If we only looked at murder, manslaughter, attempted murder, assault and wounding offences between 2022 and 2024 to date, we would have to manually review over 53,000 individual occurrences to identify the occupation of the victim.

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 over 2,650 hours for the 2022 to 2024 data alone. 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.

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