

19 November 2024

FOI Ref 17134

Request - You asked us the following:

Pursuant to s1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 please provide me with copies of:

1. Any risk assessment(s) and any other documents detailing the risks presented to the Holiday Inn Express in Tamworth and its residents on 4 August 2024 and during the preceding 7 days, and the steps taken to mitigate those risks.
2. Records created on 4 August 2024 detailing the gathering of far-right protestors at the hotel, the attack on the hotel and the police response, including logs kept by the Gold, Silver and Bronze commanders.

The ICO has stated that it is not appropriate to redact the names of employees who perform “a role that involves decision-making for which the employee has accountability” from documents disclosed under the FOIA (ICO Decision Notice FS50308752, 21 March 2011, at paras 52-57.) This would include all police officers and staff (other than those performing a purely administrative role).

If you are unable to process this request for costs reasons then please disclose what material you can within the costs limit.

We received your request on 08/08/2024 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 exemption has 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 our command and control system to answer part 2 of this request. To locate all of the records created by the records from attending officers, hotel staff, control, by standers etc would be above the time and cost threshold. The record you seek including Gold, Silver and Bronze command logs, incident reports and operational records related to the event on the 4th August 2024, are extensive and held across multiple systems. To review and compile this data would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost constraints prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

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.

Please note the data for question 1, would attract further exemptions.

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Staffordshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing within two months of the date of receipt of this email, and should be addressed to:

foi@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Central Disclosure Unit within two months of the Force's response to the original FOI request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Central Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within 20 working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.



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4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

ICO Website for complaints link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit