

28 November 2024

FOI Ref 17394

Request - You asked us the following:

Good day, I am currently working on a project regarding wildlife crime training and the recording of wildlife crime by the police.

Please can you assist with the following.

To make this query less onerous on police time please, I am only requesting data from 1 August 2023 until receipt date of FOI request.

1, Currently how many recognised wildlife trained full time Police officers do you have in your force? Date of FOI request receipt.

2, How many of these officers have undertaken College of Policing recognised training? Date of FOI request receipt.

3, Who was the service provider.

4, How many of these officers are full time Wildlife crime officers. Date of FOI request receipt.

5, How many wildlife incidents that have been reported to your force would fit the recording status below if they had notifiable status under Home Office counting rules?

Section 1 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 2 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 3 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 1 of Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996 Section 1 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 5 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 9 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 11 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 30 of Game Act 1831 Section 5 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 4 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Section 8 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Schedule 1 of Theft Act 1968 Section 27a of Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 Section 1 of Deer Act 1991 Section 2 of Deer Act 1991 Section 3 of Deer Act 1991 Section 1 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 1 of the Night Poaching Act 1828 Section 18 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 9(4A) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 28P of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Regulation 43 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regs 2017 Regulation 54 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

6, How many wildlife incidents below have been recorded as below?

Section 1 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 2 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 3 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 1 of Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996 Section 1 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 5 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 9 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 11 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 30 of Game Act 1831 Section 5 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 4 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Section 8 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Schedule 1 of Theft Act 1968 Section 27a of Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 Section 1 of Deer Act 1991 Section 2 of Deer Act 1991 Section 3 of Deer Act 1991 Section 1 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 1 of the Night Poaching Act 1828 Section 18 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 9(4A) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 28P of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Regulation 43 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regs 2017 Regulation 54 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

7, How many wildlife incident/crime reports have your force received that have been recorded as "generic/other" (Not to include Livestock Attacks)

8, How many Livestock Attacks has your force received in the time range.

9, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in No Further Action by police.

10, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a Local resolution.

11, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a Conditional Caution.

12. How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a charge.

We received your request on 22/10/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds some of the requested information.

- 1, Currently how many recognised wildlife trained full time Police officers do you have in your force? Date of FOI request receipt. – **Disclosed, 52.**
- 2, How many of these officers have undertaken College of Policing recognised training? Date of FOI request receipt. – **Disclosed, 32 Officers/Staff have completed a national course, with some internal CPD training also taking place.**
- 3, Who was the service provider. – **Disclosed, Staffordshire Police do not engage the services of one provider and have used a range of providers including the College of Policing and other police forces.**
- 4, How many of these officers are full time Wildlife crime officers. Date of FOI request receipt. – **Disclosed, nil.**
- 5, How many wildlife incidents that have been reported to your force would fit the recording status below if they had notifiable status under Home Office counting rules?
Section 1 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 2 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992
Section 3 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 1 of Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996
Section 1 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 5 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 9 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 11 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 30 of Game Act 1831 Section 5 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 4 of Animal Welfare Act 2006
Section 8 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Schedule 1 of Theft Act 1968 Section 27a of Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975
Section 1 of Deer Act 1991 Section 2 of Deer Act 1991 Section 3 of Deer Act 1991 Section 1 of the Hunting Act 2004
Section 1 of the Night Poaching Act 1828 Section 18 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 9(4A) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 28P of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Regulation 43 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regs 2017
Regulation 54 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 – **No information held.**

Please note that the FOI Act 2000 only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to create information to answer questions generally; only if the information is already held in recorded form.

- 6, How many wildlife incidents below have been recorded as below?
Section 1 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 2 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992
Section 3 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Section 1 of Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996
Section 1 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 5 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 9 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 11 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Section 30 of Game Act 1831 Section 5 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 4 of Animal Welfare Act
2006 Section 8 of Animal Welfare Act 2006 Schedule 1 of Theft Act 1968 Section 27a of Salmon
& Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 Section 1 of Deer Act 1991 Section 2 of Deer Act 1991 Section
3 of Deer Act 1991 Section 1 of the Hunting Act 2004 Section 1 of the Night Poaching Act 1828
Section 18 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 9(4A) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act
1981 Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 28P of the Wildlife & Countryside
Act 1981 Regulation 43 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regs 2017 Regulation 54
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017– **Disclosed, nil.**

Please be advised, the data provided is for only notifiable offences, which includes Schedule 1 of Theft Act 1968 Section 27a of Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, Section 18 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28P of the Wildlife & Countryside Act.

- 7, How many wildlife incident/crime reports have your force received that have been recorded as “generic/other” (Not to include Livestock Attacks) – **No information held.**
- 8, How many Livestock Attacks has your force received in the time range. – **No information held.**
- 9, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in No Further Action by police. – **No information held.**
- 10, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a Local resolution. – **No information held.**
- 11, How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a Conditional Caution. – **No information held.**
- 12. How many of these “generic/other” wildlife incident/crime incidents have resulted in a charge. – **No information held.**

Please note in regards to question 7 onwards, we do not have a ‘generic/other’ search filter.

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of our ability, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software. Additional incidents may have been recorded during these

timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

Every effort is made to ensure that the data presented is accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that this has been extracted from multiple sources, developed for specific policing purposes, for which data extraction methods have not been specifically designed to directly correlate with the terminology of this request. Therefore, the data presented is subject to the inaccuracies and idiosyncrasies inherent in any large-scale recording system.

As a consequence, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, so as to not misrepresent the whole or any part of the data disclosed.

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



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information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

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