

7 November 2024

FOI Ref 17397

Request - You asked us the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information: A list of incidents involving illegal drugs within school grounds for the following periods:

2019/20
2020/21
2021/22
2022/23
2023/24
2024/25

Please include the age range of the suspects, a breakdown of the illegal drug in question, the number of arrests made for each incident, and the crime in question (possession, supply etc.)

This information should be made available to me in spreadsheet form (Microsoft Excel) if possible.

We received your request on 23/10/2024 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:

This is because on 20th May 2020 Staffordshire Police implemented a new case management system. This system brought data from a number of legacy systems into one to provide a single nominal record, including the custody system. The old custody system has now been decommissioned and as a result there is no search facility to be able to retrieve the requested data. It would entail searching thousands of records to establish if it fitted the criteria of the request. To achieve this task would exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI 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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

In order to assist in refining your request, data can be provided from 20th May, where the MO location has been recorded as School and where a drugs qualifier has been recorded. Furthermore, we may be able to provide if the suspect was arrested, broken down by financial year. However, please note further exemptions may apply.

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