

7 November 2024

FOI Ref 17416

Request - You asked us the following:

1. How many crimes have been recorded where the victim's occupation was logged as 'Courier', 'Deliveryman', 'Delivery driver' or 'van delivery agent' between 2019 and 2024? Please note that if you do not use these specific terms, I am satisfied with any results where the victim is stated as being a delivery worker.

Please break the results down by:

1a) Month (e.g. January 2019, February 2019, etc).

1b) Victim occupation term

1c) The crime committed (for example: robbery, violence with injury, violence without injury, etc.)

1d) Location

2. In how many of these cases was a suspect arrested? Please again break this down by the categories stated above.

3. If possible and within the time and cost limit afforded to a search, please provide the incident report for each case.

We received your request on 30/10/2024 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. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 69,000 occurrences. The issue is that there is no compulsory field for victim occupation and there is also no option for 'delivery driver'. In order to ascertain whether the victim involved was a 'delivery driver' would require a manual review of all blank occupation fields. To extract this data would therefore require a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record.

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 3,450 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act by some considerable margin.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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