

28 November 2024

FOI Ref 17522

Request - You asked us the following:

Could you please search provide me with details of reported crimes where a search of the MO section of your crime database refers to "onlyfans" or "Only Fans". My request relates to crimes reported during the last five years from November 2019 to November 2024.

I would like to know the number of crimes reported over this period and can you please also provide me with the copies or summaries of the MO section of the incident report, with any personal data removed or redacted?

Lastly, could you tell me the outcome of each case - whether there were any arrests, prosecutions and convictions, or whether they were NFAed?

If this requests exceeds the cost limit, could you provide me with as many copies or summaries of the MO section of the incident report as you can within the time limit?

We received your request on 27/11/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.

- Could you please search provide me with details of reported crimes where a search of the MO section of your crime database refers to "onlyfans" or "Only Fans". My request relates to crimes reported during the last five years from November 2019 to November 2024.
 - I would like to know the number of crimes reported over this period and can you please also provide me with the copies or summaries of the MO section of the incident report, with any personal data removed or redacted?
 - Lastly, could you tell me the outcome of each case - whether there were any arrests, prosecutions and convictions, or whether they were NFAed?
 - If this requests exceeds the cost limit, could you provide me with as many copies or summaries of the MO section of the incident report as you can within the time limit?
- **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 17522 Only Fans Crimes Data'.**

Please note that there are two offences that are still being investigated so with regard to these cases we are citing Section 30(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Investigations conducted by Public Authorities.

These offences are still included within the dataset but are marked '***SECTION 30***' in the MO table.



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Please be advised that the data has been provided from 1st November 2019 until 27th November 2024, when this request was received. A search in the MO has been carried out for all offences containing the words 'onlyfans' and 'Only Fans' as requested. Please note that arrests and outcomes have also been provided. Staffordshire Police do not hold conviction data. This can be obtained via the Government HM Courts and Tribunals Service website.

Please find below links to previously disclosed HMCTS data and details upon how to submit a further Freedom of Information request to the Government HM Courts and Tribunals Service for this information.

Make an FOI request - [how to make a request](#)

Check our previous releases to see if we've already answered your question - [our previous releases](#)

Make a new request by using the details below.

FOI requests

Disclosure Team
Postal Point 10.38, Floor 10
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ
United Kingdom

Email - data.access@justice.gov.uk

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 offences 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.

The following exemption has been applied:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations

Section 30 is qualified and class based and, as such, we are required to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. Staffordshire Police is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

Balance test

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors we are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

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.



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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.

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