

3 October 2024

FOI Ref 17169

Request - You asked us the following:

What is your policy on the use of handcuffs and your preferred method of application.

What is your criteria for the use of handcuffs. Is there use ubiquitous for all arrests.

Do you record data on the use of restraints for every arrest. i.e. Age, gender and circumstance of use.

We received your request on 19/08/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

Staffordshire Police holds the following requested information.

- 1. What is your policy on the use of handcuffs and your preferred method of application. – **Information held.**
- 2. What is your criteria for the use of handcuffs. Is there use ubiquitous for all arrests. – **Information held.**
- 3. Do you record data on the use of restraints for every arrest. i.e. Age, gender and circumstance of use. – **Information held.**

Staffordshire Police discloses the following information.

- 1. What is your policy on the use of handcuffs and your preferred method of application. - **Disclosed, please see below the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17169 Policy on Handcuffs data'.**

The preferred method of application is down to the officer's discretion and based on the officer's threat assessment of the individual/situation.

Please be advise, the extract provided above is an extract which conforms with your request, from the Use of Force Procedure.

- 2. What is your criteria for the use of handcuffs. Is there use ubiquitous for all arrests. - **Disclosed, The two methods of handcuffing are 'front stack' and 'rear back to back' handcuffing. Rear back to back handcuffing reduces a person's capability further compared to front stack. With all handcuffing, it is a use of force and therefore requires the officer to justify their actions and decision to apply them.**
- 3. Do you record data on the use of restraints for every arrest. i.e. Age, gender and circumstance of use. - **Disclosed, yes.**



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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