

8 October 2024

FOI Ref 17195

Request - You asked us the following:

1. For each of the last five financial years, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff with a recorded business interest.
2. For the most recent financial year only (2023/24), please break down the recorded business interests to show the numbers (i) volunteering (ii) in self-employment and (iii) in paid employment with other organisations.
3. For the most recent financial year only, please provide a breakdown of the figures to show those in (i) self-employment and (ii) paid employment with other organisations by employment nature.
4. For the most recent financial year only, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff whose applications to pursue business interests you refused. Please specify how many of each (i) appealed and (ii) had their refused decision overturned on appeal.

CLARIFICATION RECEIVED 03/09/2024

I wish to add a further request and apologise for the inconvenience this may cause:

5. Please specify the number of officers with 'property letting' business interests (2023/24).

We received your request on 27/08/2024 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 part of this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 579 occurrences. In order to determine Questions 2 and 3 of your request, each file would need to be reviewed to determine the recorded business interest and if the employment type was self-employment or paid employment with other organisations. To extract this data would therefore require a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record.



STAFFORDSHIRE
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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 28 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of 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.

Should you retract Questions 2 and 3. Data could be provided for the remainder of the request. 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