

4 October 2024

FOI Ref 17207

Request - You asked us the following:

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information. As of 31st August 2024:

1. Total number of people arrested in the "outbreaks of violent disorder" that took place in Tamworth & Stoke-on-Trent from 30th July to 8th August in response to the mass stabbing carried out in Southport
2. Of those arrested, the total number who have had any reports of domestic abuse made against them as recorded on their criminal records
3. Of those arrested, the total number who have had any convictions for domestic abuse as recorded on their criminal records
4. If possible within the time limit, please provide the nature of the offences for which the individuals have been (i) reported (ii) convicted

We received your request on 30/08/2024 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 this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 100 arrests, in order to ascertain whether the arrest was due to 'outbreaks of violent disorder'. Each arrest record for each offence would require manual review. Furthermore, we would have to research every file from the return of Question 1, to determine if each arrest had any report of Domestic Abuse made against them previously. 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 60 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 100 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act by some considerable margin.

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

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. However, in order to assist you, you may find the below links useful:

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/update-on-stoke-on-trent-disorder/>

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/ten-arrests-following-disorder-in-stoke-on-trent/>

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/two-charged-as-part-of-ongoing-investigation-into-stoke-on-trent-disorder/>

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/man-arrested-following-tamworth-disorder/>

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/three-more-arrests-in-tamworth-disorder/>

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/news/staffordshire/news/2024/august/teenage-boy-charged-after-tamworth-disorder/>

Please note, Staffordshire Police do not hold conviction data. We would advise that you approach the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) in this instance, who may be able to assist further.

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