

8 October 2024

FOI Ref 17238

Request - You asked us the following:

- Please provide a breakdown of the number of young people (aged 16 and under) who have been caught driving without a licence in your force area for the last five financial years, broken down by year. (01 April – 31st March, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024)
- Please provide, if possible, the figures for each age group where applicable i.e. nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen etc, also broken down by gender.
- Please provide, if possible, the outcome of each case.

We received your request on 09/09/2024 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 400 occurrences. To determine the outcome of an individual who has been found driving without a licence and is under the age of 16, would entail a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record relating to uninsured driving offences. From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 10 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 66 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.

In order to assist in refining your request, data can be provided for individuals who have been caught driving without a licence who are aged 16 and under and broken down by calendar year and gender. However, please note further exemptions may apply.



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