

8 April 2025

FOI Ref 17999

Request - You asked us the following:

following my request of information of the officer who instructed people outside of Saladin Mosque to deposit their weapons inside, I'd like an explanation of whether what this offer did in terms of advising to hide weapons so people don't get in trouble is the usual process and morally right and justifiable. Has anything come out of the officers actions, in regards to disciplinary and admission of what he did publicly? If not a public admission of this is ideal and requested! Most residents of Stoke believe the media narrative that the Stoke violence was instigated by the protestors with England flags as opposed to the congregation of Saladin Mosque who initiated and sustained lethal attacks of throwing rocks from an elevated position down onto random innocent people.

A statement from the police along the lines: innocent protestors and our officers started to get pelted by rocks in a lethal fashion by members of the Saladin Mosque. The members of the mosque clearly anticipated/intended on violence and as such came with weapons and balaclavas, attacking the protestors with English flags as soon as they could.

I don't feel safe in my own city, nothing is being said or discussed about it. Which is leading to more concern in our community. What about this summer when these violent thugs of the mosque feel as though they're justified to kill people?

We received your request on 24/03/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police can neither confirm or deny that it holds some of the information you requested as it believes that the duty under s1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the duty to confirm whether the public authority holds information of the specified description) does not apply.

- Has anything come out of the officers actions, in regards to disciplinary and admission of what he did publicly?

The following exemptions have 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 40(5) Personal Information

Section 40(5) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

To release personal or third-party information held by Staffordshire Police, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Staffordshire Police does not hold the requested information.

- I'd like an explanation of whether what this offer did in terms of advising to hide weapons so people don't get in trouble is the usual process and morally right and justifiable. – **No information held.**
- What about this summer when these violent thugs of the mosque feel as though they're justified to kill people? – **No information held.**

Please note that the Freedom of Information Act 2000 only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to create information to answer questions generally; only if the information is already held in recorded form. The Act does not extend to requests for information about policies or their implementation, or the merits or demerits of any proposal or action - unless, of course, the answer to any such request is already held in recorded form.

Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the Staffordshire Police website although personal details are not included.

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



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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.

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