

31 March 2025

FOI Ref 18015

Request - You asked us the following:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information relating to the offence of driving without proper control of the vehicle (commonly associated with offence code CD10).

Please provide data for the last three calendar years: 2022, 2023 and 2024, with a monthly breakdown where possible.

Specifically, I would like to request the following:

Q1. The total number of cautions issued under the CD10 offence, broken down by month and year.

Q2. The total number of fixed penalties issued under the CD10 offence, broken down by month and year.

Q3. The total number of prosecutions initiated under the CD10 offence, broken down by month and year.

Q4. A full list or breakdown of all offences recorded under CD10 during this period.

Q5. Where available, any accompanying officer notes, incident descriptors, or free-text fields associated with CD10 offences.

Q6. If possible, please indicate whether any of the CD10 offences were related to driving with pets in the vehicle (e.g. where the presence or behaviour of a pet may have contributed to the lack of control). This could include any relevant details recorded in officer notes or free-text fields.

Q7. Please indicate the number of fines issued under the CD10 offence during each period and where held, the total revenue generated from these fines, broken down by each month of each calendar year.

Clarification received 28/03/2025:

Further to my recent Freedom of Information request regarding the offence code CD10 – driving without due care and attention, I would like to provide the following clarifications to assist with processing:

Offence Scope

Please note that I am requesting information specifically and solely related to the CD10 offence code, which refers to driving without due care and attention.

Fixed Penalty Notices / Conditional Offers (Q2) If your force does not issue Fixed Penalty Notices but instead issues conditional offers (comprising a fine and points on the licence), please confirm this within your response and include these figures under Q2.

Prosecutions Initiated (Q3)

For Q3, I am seeking data on individuals who were referred for court prosecution under CD10, regardless of whether a conviction followed. If available, please also include a breakdown showing how many of those referrals resulted in conviction.

If only one of these figures is held, please provide what is available and indicate what the figure represents.

I hope this clarification is helpful. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We received your request on 25/03/2025 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 exemption has 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 readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 6,000 Aiding, Abetting, Causing Or Permitting Careless Driving offences recorded. In order to retrieve the requested data relating to the accompanying officer notes/incident descriptors, whether an offence was related to driving with pets in the vehicle, and the total number of fines issued, including revenue generated from these fines, the record for each offence would require manual review. 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 5 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 500 hours to provide the requested data. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information 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.

If your request was amended, Staffordshire Police would be able to provide the following information:

- The total number of fixed penalty notices issued in 2022, 2023 and 2024 for Aiding, Abetting, Causing or Permitting Careless Driving, broken down by month/year, the specific offence and whether a fixed penalty notice was issued and the disposal method (prosecuted, paid, retraining course completed).

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

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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