

4 April 2025

FOI Ref 21151

Request - You asked us the following:

I live on Dunstall Park estate with my family and recently we have noticed and been told about a bigger police presence on the estate. This has been both uniformed and non marked police. While I would usually see this as being an increase in safety I'm finding I'm feeling increasingly unsafe with the amount of police being needed here. We recently received a letter from my sons school- Dunstall park primary, letting us know they will be practicing lock downs with the children incase of any emergency incidents where they would need to lock down the school and keep children inside hiding and quiet. This really unnerved me- and today there was a police officer present at school pick up time 3.20pm. I'm just concerned that there is a threat we haven't been made aware of that the police feel is significant enough to have unmarked officers and uniformed officers around the estate and now at the school.

The school currently only holds nursery and reception children. Please can I have some information about what's happening on the estate and at the school to put my mind at rest.

We received your request on 31/03/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police does not hold the requested information.

- Please can I have some information about what's happening on the estate and at the school to put my mind at rest. – **No information held.**

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.

Although we do not hold an information under the Freedom of Information Act, we have liaised with the Local Policing Team for Tamworth and they have responded outside of the FOI Act with the following:

'Local officers will frequently increase patrolling in a specific area due to local trends. This is driven by the local priorities that are set by the Tamworth Local Policing Commanders. We frequently increase our mobile patrols in response to crime trends like vehicle crime. There had been some reports of the antisocial use of electric bikes/motorbikes and related thefts close to the Dunstall Park Estate (predominantly Ventura Park). This may be why you have seen an increase in mobile patrols. Fortunately it appears that this has had the impact of deterring this type of offending.

In relation to schools, I cannot comment on anything relating to the school procedures or initiatives, but these are unconnected with current increased police activity. The increase in PCSOs at the school gates is a recent initiative to improve visibility and encourage better engagement. It is also intended to deter poor

parking and congestion at the busy periods. This is an approach we are adopting across all schools in Tamworth. You are of course welcome to approach the local officers and discuss any concerns you have when you see them in the community.'

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



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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