

9 April 2025

FOI Ref 21162

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Q1) For the previous 10 calendar years, please provide the total number of recorded crimes which have been flagged as domestic-abuse related incidents (ie. have met the cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse) reported by young people, broken down by the following age groups:

- 1) Under 18
- 2) 18-24
- 3) 25-30

NB: the cross-government definition of Domestic violence and abuse: "any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to: psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional."

Please provide this data for each year:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019
- f) 2020
- g) 2021
- h) 2022
- i) 2023
- j) 2024
- k) 2025 – latest available data

Q2) Of the reports cited in answer to Q1, please provide the number of cases that resulted in:

- 1) An arrest
- 2) A charge
- 3) A prosecution
- 4) A conviction

Please provide this data for each year:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019
- f) 2020



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- g) 2021
- h) 2022
- i) 2023
- j) 2024
- k) 2025 – latest available data

Q3) For the previous 10 calendar years, please provide the total number of coercive or controlling behaviour offences reported by young people, also broken down by the following age groups. Please search for this data using the terms 'coercive control' and crimes alleged under Home Office code 008/67.

- 1) Under 18
- 2) 18-24
- 3) 25-30

Please provide this data for each year:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019
- f) 2020
- g) 2021
- h) 2022
- i) 2023
- j) 2024
- k) 2025 – latest available data

Q4) Of the coercive and controlling behaviour reports cited in answer to Q3, please provide the number of cases that resulted in:

- 1) An arrest
- 2) A charge
- 3) A prosecution
- 4) A conviction

Please provide this data for each year:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019
- f) 2020
- g) 2021
- h) 2022
- i) 2023
- j) 2024
- k) 2025 – latest available data

Q5) If available, please provide a breakdown of the most common reasons why domestic abuse and coercive control cases did not proceed to charge (e.g., lack of evidence, victim withdrawal).

Q6) Finally can you please attach MO codes for the calendar year 2024 for domestic abuse-related offences involving alleged victims under 30? I accept redactions may need to be made to remove personal information.

We received your request on 01/04/2025 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:

This is because on 20th May 2020 Staffordshire Police implemented a new case management system. This system brought data from a number of legacy systems into one to provide a single nominal record, including the custody system. The old custody system has now been decommissioned and as a result there is no search facility to be able to retrieve the requested data. It would entail searching thousands of records to establish if it fitted the criteria of the request. Likewise Q5, a trawl through each occurrence would need to be conducted to determine why domestic abuse and coercive control cases did not proceed to charge. To achieve this task would exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI Act.

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 from 20/05/2020 to the present day for your following questions:

Data can be provided where a domestic abuse qualifier has been applied and broken down by the victim age at the time of the offence for your requested age groups. Furthermore, data can be provided where the outcome has been recorded as charge/postally requisitioned. Similarly, data can be provided for the Home Office code 008/67 and where a free text search of 'coercive control' and broken down by the victim age at the time of the offence for your requested age groups. Likewise, data can be provided where the outcome has been recorded as charge/postally requisitioned.

Staffordshire Police do not hold conviction or prosecution data. We would advise that you approach the Government HM Courts & Tribunals service website.

Please find below links to previously disclosed HMCTS data and details upon how to submit a further Freedom of Information request to the Government HM Courts and Tribunals Service for this information. Make an FOI request - [how to make a request](#).

Check our previous releases to see if we've already answered your question - [our previous releases](#)

Make a new request by using the details below.

FOI requests

Disclosure Team

Postal Point 10.38, Floor 10

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

United Kingdom

Email: data.access@justice.gov.uk

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.



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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/>

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