

14 April 2025

FOI Ref 21170

Request - You asked us the following:

I trust you should be able to answer the questions posed in my rejected request (17957) for only the calendar years of 2024 and 2023? That is going off you saying it would take around 43 hours to extract the information for the calendar years between 2020 and 2025

Clarification received from applicant 10/04/2025

Okay that's fine, please proceed as suggested (FYI I did speak to one of your FOI officers a couple of years ago over the phone - he was very kind and offered assistance advice). Your force is one of the best in terms of transparency/ helping requesters. Would it be possible to please estimate when my outstanding requests will be sent back to me?

Original request FOI 17957

Please answer the following questions for each calendar year between 2020 and 2025.

Please send me a log of all of the types of use of force one of your officers used which fit into the "other/improvised" category on your use of force database (which was shared with me in my previous request - 17864).

We received your request on 02/04/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds some of the requested information.

I trust you should be able to answer the questions posed in my rejected request (17957) for only the calendar years of 2024 and 2023? That is going off you saying it would take around 43 hours to extract the information for the calendar years between 2020 and 2025

Clarification received from applicant 10/04/2025

Okay that's fine, please proceed as suggested (FYI I did speak to one of your FOI officers a couple of years ago over the phone - he was very kind and offered assistance advice). Your force is one of the best in terms of transparency/ helping requesters. Would it be possible to please estimate when my outstanding requests will be sent back to me? – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 21170 Refinement of FOI 17957 Types of Use of Force Data'.**

As agreed, this data pertains to January 2023 and January 2024, where the Use of Force category has been selected as 'other/improvised'. Furthermore, a manual trawl has been conducted to determine what force has been used.

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of our ability, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software.

Every effort is made to ensure that the data presented is accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that this has been extracted from multiple sources, developed for specific policing purposes, for which data extraction methods have not been specifically designed to directly correlate with the terminology of this request. Therefore, the data presented is subject to the inaccuracies and idiosyncrasies inherent in any large-scale recording system.

As a consequence, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, so as to not misrepresent the whole or any part of the data disclosed.

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.



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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