

14 April 2025

FOI Ref 21221

**Request - You asked us the following:**

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to inquire about data regarding reports of 'cum tributes'\*.

Can you please share with me a breakdown of data contained in reported incidents (eg in STORM's database) which contain the phrase 'cum tribute' from 01/01/2025 to 13/04/2025.

Can you do the same for the time periods of 01/01/2024-31/12/2024, 01/01/2023-31/12/2023, 01/01/2022-31/12/2022, 01/01/2021-31/12/2021 and 01/01/2020-31/12/2020.

Please can you also share the gender and the ages of those who reported and those who were arrested and/or charged.

Please share your findings that are completed within the time and spending allocation given.

\*By 'cum tribute' I refer to 'the sexual activity that consists of ejaculating on a portrait, and then recording the portrait and the semen together'. Often cum tributes are posted online to forums and groups.

I believe these questions are clear but if you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your cooperation.

We received your request on 14/04/2025 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. 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 could be provided where a free text search is conducted for the phrase 'cum tribute' and the incident logs of these reports from 01/01/2025 to 13/04/2025. Furthermore, data could be provided from 20/05/2020 to 31/12/2024 broken down by year, where a free text search of the phrase 'cum tribute' is conducted broken down by age, gender and if there was a charge. However, please note further exemptions may apply.

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](mailto: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