

14 August 2025

FOI Ref 21724

Request - You asked us the following:

I would like to please add a clarification to my request, and would be very grateful if the data could be adapted accordingly and sent back to me please.

For question (I), I would like the data to be provided separately for each individual service station location. Specifically, I am requesting the number of reported crimes broken down by both crime type and year, for each distinct service station, rather than aggregated data for shared postcodes.

Original request

Please provide me with the number of all reported crimes (broken down by each offence type), where the location of the alleged offence or the address of the victim was recorded as one of the following locations:

1. Moto Services Hilton Park Northbound, Essington, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire WV11 2AT
2. Moto Services Stafford Northbound, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 0EU
3. Welcome Break Services Keele, Keele, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 5HG
4. Roadchef Services Norton Canes, Bettys Lane, Norton Canes, Cannock, WS11 9UX
5. Roadchef Services Stafford Southbound, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0XE

Please provide figures for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. Please provide the figures in a table listing each crime type (eg theft from a motor vehicle, criminal damage etc) against each year.

II. For theft from motor vehicle, please also provide figures where the value of the theft exceeds £20,000 for each year.

We received your request on 11/08/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.

- I would like to please add a clarification to my request, and would be very grateful if the data could be adapted accordingly and sent back to me please.
- For question (I), I would like the data to be provided separately for each individual service station location. Specifically, I am requesting the number of reported crimes broken down by both crime type and year, for each distinct service station, rather than aggregated data for shared postcodes.

- Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21724 Refinement of FOI 21680 Crimes at Service Stations Data'. Please see the below exemption.

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. Additional offences may have been recorded during these timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

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.

Please note that there is one offence that is still being investigated so with regard to this case we are citing Section 30(1)(a)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Investigations conducted by Public Authorities.

The following exemption has been applied:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations
- Section 30 is qualified and class based and, as such, we are required to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. Staffordshire Police is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

Balance test

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors we are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

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