



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

5 December 2025

FOI Ref 22186

Request - You asked us the following:

Please provide the information below for the period from commencement of the relevant provisions of the Public Order Act 2023 to the most recent date for which figures are available, in relation to protests, demonstrations, vigils and other public assemblies.

A. Public Order Act 2023 offences

For arrests made under the following provisions of the Public Order Act 2023:

- Section 1 – Offence of “locking on”
- Section 3 – Offence of “tunnelling”
- Section 7 – “Interference with use or operation of key national infrastructure”
- Any related conspiracy offences, including but not limited to:
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 1
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 3
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 7

For each of the above, please state (where held):

1. Total number of arrests.
2. Number of suspects charged directly by the police (without CPS charging decision).
3. Number of cases referred to the CPS for a charging decision.
4. Number of suspects charged following CPS authorisation.
5. Number of prosecutions resulting in conviction (if known to the force).
6. Number of prosecutions resulting in acquittal (if known to the force).
7. Any other protest-related conspiracy charges linked to the above incidents (e.g. conspiracy to cause public nuisance, conspiracy to interfere with key infrastructure, conspiracy to commit criminal damage), specifying the offence wording and statutory provision used.

B. Equality-monitoring data

For the arrests listed above, please provide aggregate equality-monitoring data (where recorded), broken down by:

- Sex
- Age group
- Ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Disability

If some of these fields are not recorded or not extractable within the appropriate cost limit, please provide what is available and briefly describe any gaps.

If no such arrests have been made, please confirm this.

If information is not held in a readily retrievable format for the whole period, please provide data for whatever period is available and state from which date reliable recording is possible.

Staffordshire Police (SP) received your request on 30/11/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

SP holds the requested information.

- Please provide the information below for the period from commencement of the relevant provisions of the Public Order Act 2023 to the most recent date for which figures are available, in relation to protests, demonstrations, vigils and other public assemblies.
- A. Public Order Act 2023 offences
For arrests made under the following provisions of the Public Order Act 2023:
 - Section 1 – Offence of “locking on”
 - Section 3 – Offence of “tunnelling”
 - Section 7 – “Interference with use or operation of key national infrastructure”
 - Any related conspiracy offences, including but not limited to:
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 1
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 3
 - o Conspiracy to commit an offence under section 7

- Disclosed, nil arrests under the Public Order Act 2023.
- For each of the above, please state (where held):
 - 1. Total number of arrests.
 - 2. Number of suspects charged directly by the police (without CPS charging decision).
 - 3. Number of cases referred to the CPS for a charging decision.
 - 4. Number of suspects charged following CPS authorisation.
 - 5. Number of prosecutions resulting in conviction (if known to the force).
 - 6. Number of prosecutions resulting in acquittal (if known to the force).
 - 7. Any other protest-related conspiracy charges linked to the above incidents (e.g. conspiracy to cause public nuisance, conspiracy to interfere with key infrastructure, conspiracy to commit criminal damage), specifying the offence wording and statutory provision used.

- Not applicable.
- B. Equality-monitoring data
For the arrests listed above, please provide aggregate equality-monitoring data (where recorded), broken down by:
 - Sex
 - Age group
 - Ethnicity
 - Religion or belief
 - Disability

- Not applicable.

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

Consequently, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, 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 SP 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 SP, 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:

IAT@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Information Access Team
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 Information Access Team within two months of the SP 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 a supervisor who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Information Access Team 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 twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to forty working days.

The independent supervisor 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, considering the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the independent supervisor will reply to the appellant with the result of the review. If the appellant 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 link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team