

9 December 2025

FOI Ref 22200

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information. If this information is already publicly available or you might be able to guide me to another information source, any advice would be gladly received.

Q1) Please can you state for offences recorded by your force, the number in which the crime report text (described as modus operandi reports by many forces) contains a mention of "onlyfans" in each of the following calendar years. Please also state the type of crime and outcome (i.e. no further action, withdrawn, charged etc.) Please provide this in .csv format.

i) 2024

ii) 2025

Q2) Please can you provide a redacted copy of the free text crime reports for these offences recorded by your force between July 2024 and July 2025.

Clarification requested:

Please clarify whether your time frame for Q1 is 01/01/2024 – 03/12/2025 or July 2024 – July 2025 only?

Clarification received on 04/12/2025:

Thanks for your response. It is for the full calendar year, so 01/01/2024 and all available data for 2025 so far.

We received your request on 03/12/2025 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.

- Q1) Please can you state for offences recorded by your force, the number in which the crime report text (described as modus operandi reports by many forces) contains a mention of "onlyfans" in each of the following calendar years. Please also state the type of crime and outcome (i.e. no further action, withdrawn, charged etc.) Please provide this in .csv format.
 - i) 2024
 - ii) 2025 – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22200 OnlyFans Crimes Data.csv'.**

Please note that this data has been provided from a search of our crime/occurrence recording systems for the term 'OnlyFans' where present within the MO of an occurrence report between 01/01/2024 – 03/12/2025.

- Q2) Please can you provide a redacted copy of the free text crime reports for these offences recorded by your force between July 2024 and July 2025. – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22200 OnlyFans Crimes Data.csv'.**

Please note that there is 1 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 parts of 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.

- Section 40(2) Personal Information

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

To release personal or third-party information held by Staffordshire Police, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant.

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.

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:

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 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 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 20 working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 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, taking into account 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



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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