

20 February 2025

FOI Ref 17734

Request - You asked us the following:

I am carrying out research into how the police respond to different types of Modern Slavery offences. Please could you provide me with the following information:

- 1, Number of officers currently serving within your force
- 2, Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with child criminal exploitation (such as county lines).
- 3, Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with child sexual exploitation.
- 4, Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with sex trafficking (forced prostitution).

You may wish to add a footnote as to how your force deals with these issues of Modern Slavery in terms of staffing and resourcing. I am aware that certain forces have designated county lines teams however other forces may encompass a wider drugs squad which would include county lines activity.

We received your request on 28/01/2025 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.

- 1. Number of officers currently serving within your force – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17734 Modern Slavery Offences Data'.**
- 2. Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with child criminal exploitation (such as county lines). – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17734 Modern Slavery Offences Data'.**
- 3. Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with child sexual exploitation. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17734 Modern Slavery Offences Data'.**
- 4. Number of officers assigned or posted to teams which primarily (or exclusively) deal with sex trafficking (forced prostitution). – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17734 Modern Slavery Offences Data'.**

You may wish to add a footnote as to how your force deals with these issues of Modern Slavery in terms of staffing and resourcing. I am aware that certain forces have designated county lines teams however other forces may encompass a wider drugs squad which would include county lines activity. – **Disclosed, please note in addition to this, the pro-active teams deal with county**

lines but work closely with the Child Exploitation teams for this. Furthermore, the Child Exploitation teams deal with all types of adult slavery cases, not solely sex work.

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.

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