

19 February 2025

FOI Ref 17762

Request - You asked us the following:

I would like to request the following under the Freedom of Information Act:

- 1) How many collisions involving Staffordshire Police vehicles occurred in the following years, and where did they occur?
2024 (01 Jan – 31 Dec)
2023 (01 Jan – 31 Dec)
2022 (01 Jan – 31 Dec)
2021 (01 Jan – 31 Dec)
2020 (01 Jan – 31 Dec)
- 2) How many of the collisions in each of the above years resulted in injury to officers and / or members of the public?
- 3) Of the total number of collisions in each of the above years, how many happened under blue light conditions (either responding to incidents, or pursuing suspects?)
- 4) How many of the collisions in each of the above years resulted in action being taken against officers, and if so, what was that action?
- 5) What was the cost to the force in each of the above years in terms of damage to police vehicles as a result of collisions?

We received your request on 03/02/2025 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:

For information prior to 2023 for question 4, there is no method by which we can readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. Prior to 2023, there was no single recording system for collisions

that resulted in action being taken against officers. Therefore, it would take many hours of manual review of collision reports, occurrence logs and incident records in order to retrieve this information, which would exceed the time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information 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.

If question 4 was amended to only require data from 2023 and 2024, Staffordshire Police would be able to respond to this question and provide a full response to the remaining questions in this request.

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

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