

5 February 2025

FOI Ref 17767

Request - You asked us the following:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. Please note that there are several parts to this request. I would like to request the following information:

(1) On 4th October 2021, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of police officers disciplined or dismissed for their conduct on WhatsApp or other social media sites. Please see reference 13671. I also requested an internal review. Please see reference 13950. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request / the request for an internal review to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral Unit that discuss this request / the request for an internal review.

(2) On 29th March 2023, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of unauthorised photos. Please see reference 15447. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral Unit that discuss this request.

(3) On 9th January 2024, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of Subject Access Requests response times. Please see reference 16364. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral Unit that discuss this request.

If you feel that a substantive response to this request is not possible within a reasonable time frame, I would be grateful if you could contact me and provide assistance as to how I can refine the request. If you need any clarification, please contact me. I look forward to receiving a response in 20 working days. Many thanks.

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:

Staffordshire Police holds some of the requested information.

- (1) On 4th October 2021, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of police officers disciplined or dismissed for their conduct on WhatsApp or other social media sites. Please see reference 13671. I also requested an internal review. Please see reference 13950. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request / the request for an internal review to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral

Unit that discuss this request / the request for an internal review. – **No information held. (please see section 16 below)**

- (2) On 29th March 2023, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of unauthorised photos. Please see reference 15447. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral Unit that discuss this request. – **Disclosed, please see below:**

- (i) **No, this request wasn't referred to NPCC.**
- (ii) **Not applicable.**

- (3) On 9th January 2024, I submitted a FOI request to Staffordshire Police through WhatDoTheyKnow on the topic of Subject Access Requests response times. Please see reference 16364. Please (i) confirm whether Staffordshire Police referred the request to the NPCC Central Referral Unit (ii) please provide all correspondence and communications between Staffordshire Police and the NPCC Central Referral Unit that discuss this request. – **Disclosed, please see below:**

- (i) **No, this request wasn't referred to NPCC.**
- (ii) **Not applicable.**

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.

Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the Staffordshire Police website although personal details are not included.

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.

Please be advised, Freedom of Information requests are kept in line with our retention schedule which can be found within the privacy notice on our website:

[Privacy notice | Staffordshire Police.](#)

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:



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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 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