

24 January 2025

FOI Ref 17620

Request - You asked us the following:

This is a request for information according to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

It relates to arrests made, and restrictions imposed, by your force under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

Please note there are four parts to my request.

(1)
In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, on how many occasions has your force used the powers allowed for in Section 75 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: Offences under sections 12 and 14 of the Public Order Act 1986?

Sections 12 and 14 of the 1986 Act (as amended by the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022) allow the police to impose any type of condition on a public procession or public assembly necessary to prevent: significant impact on persons or serious disruption to the activities of an organisation by noise; serious disorder; serious damage to property; serious disruption to the life of the community; or if the purpose of the persons organising the protest is the intimidation of others with a view to compelling them not to do an act they have a right to do, or to do an act they have a right not to do.

(2)
In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, how many arrests has your force made under Section 78 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: the offence of intentionally or recklessly causing public nuisance

(3)
In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, on how many occasions has your force used the powers allowed for in Section 79 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: imposing conditions on one-person protests?

(4)
In the time period 12/05/2022 up to 01/01/2025, how many arrests has your force made under Section 80 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: wilful obstruction of a highway?

To aid you with your response, I have attached a spreadsheet that you can complete.

We received your request on 03/01/2025 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) In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, on how many occasions has your force used the powers allowed for in Section 75 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: Offences under sections 12 and 14 of the Public Order Act 1986? – **Disclosed, nil.**

Sections 12 and 14 of the 1986 Act (as amended by the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022) allow the police to impose any type of condition on a public procession or public assembly necessary to prevent: significant impact on persons or serious disruption to the activities of an organisation by noise; serious disorder; serious damage to property; serious disruption to the life of the community; or if the purpose of the persons organising the protest is the intimidation of others with a view to compelling them not to do an act they have a right to do, or to do an act they have a right not to do.

- (2) In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, how many arrests has your force made under Section 78 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: the offence of intentionally or recklessly causing public nuisance – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17620 Public Order Arrests Data'.**

Please note, the data disclosed is where the reason description includes the offence 'intentionally or recklessly causing public nuisance' from 28/06/2022 to 01/01/2025.

- (3) In the time period 28/06/2022 up to 01/01/2025, on how many occasions has your force used the powers allowed for in Section 79 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: imposing conditions on one-person protests? – **Disclosed, nil.**
- (4) In the time period 12/05/2022 up to 01/01/2025, how many arrests has your force made under Section 80 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: wilful obstruction of a highway? – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17620 Public Order Arrests Data'.**

Please note, the data disclosed is where the reason description includes the offence 'wilful obstruction of a highway' from 12/05/2022 to 01/01/2025.

- To aid you with your response, I have attached a spreadsheet that you can complete. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 17620 Public Order Arrests Data'.**

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. Additional offences 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.

As a consequence, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, so as 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 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.

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