

29 January 2025

FOI Ref 17667

Request - You asked us the following:

We are conducting research on the use of emergency securing services (such as boarding up and securing buildings) for the UK police force. As part of this research, we would like to find out the following information about your police force's practices in this area. Specifically, we are looking to cover the following:

Scenarios and Usage:

- In what scenarios do you use emergency securing services? Are there standard guidelines or policies governing when these services are used?

Frequency:

- How many cases require emergency securing services annually (ideally from 2010 to 2024)? If possible, please provide a geographical breakdown and include the cause of forced entry (i.e. executing a search warrant, immigration, etc).

Service Providers:

- Who are the main providers or contractors engaged for emergency securing services?
- What proportion of emergency securing services does each contractor achieve?

Expenditure and remuneration:

- How are these services funded – is there a framework in place (if so, please provide detail)? Which parties are responsible for remunerating the emergency securing service contractor (please provide any data that shows a breakdown of this)?
- If possible, please provide a breakdown of the services used (e.g. locksmith, boarding-up, etc) and the incurred cost, and the average cost per emergency securing process.
- What has been the annual expenditure on emergency securing services for each year from 2010 to 2024?

We received your request on 14/01/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:

Staffordshire Police holds/does not hold the requested information.

Scenarios and Usage:

- In what scenarios do you use emergency securing services? Are there standard guidelines or policies governing when these services are used? – **Partially disclosed, scenarios include forced entry relating to the following: warrants, PACE entries, welfare checks, burglaries, criminal damage. No information is held relating to a policy governing this service.**

Frequency:

- How many cases require emergency securing services annually (ideally from 2010 to 2024)? If possible, please provide a geographical breakdown and include the cause of forced entry (i.e. executing a search warrant, immigration, etc). – **No information held.**

Service Providers:

- Who are the main providers or contractors engaged for emergency securing services? – **Disclosed, Boing Rapid Secure.**
- What proportion of emergency securing services does each contractor achieve? – **Disclosed, we only use the service of Boing Rapid Secure.**

Expenditure and remuneration:

- How are these services funded – is there a framework in place (if so, please provide detail)? Which parties are responsible for remunerating the emergency securing service contractor (please provide any data that shows a breakdown of this)? – **Disclosed, The contract is via the Met framework. The Force pays for some of the payments based on the contract terms. In instances such as criminal damage, some welfare incidents or burglaries then individual house owners or businesses would be expected to pay for this service.**
- If possible, please provide a breakdown of the services used (e.g. locksmith, boarding-up, etc) and the incurred cost, and the average cost per emergency securing process. – **No information held.**
- What has been the annual expenditure on emergency securing services for each year from 2010 to 2024? – **Partially disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17667 Emergency Securing Services Data.PDF'. Information prior to 2012/13 is not held.**

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.

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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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 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/>



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit

A safe and confident Staffordshire