

18 July 2025

FOI Ref 21389

Request - You asked us the following:

I am conducting a study of multi-agency emergency preparedness.

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request the following information:

1. How many multi-agency exercises have been conducted by your organisation within the last 3 years (1st May 2022 to 30th April 2025 inclusive).
2. What proportion of these multi-agency exercises were:
 - i. Tabletop / Scenario Based
 - ii. Live Exercises
 - iii. Other (please state).
3. Please detail how post-exercise findings are fed back into the organisation and how any changes to policies and procedures are implemented as a result of this feedback.
4. What proportion of multi-agency exercises in the last 3 years:
 - i. Involved more than two CCA 2004 category one responder organisations (please detail)
 - ii. Involved CCA 2004 category two responders (please detail)
 - iii. Involved organisations from the voluntary and faith based sectors (please detail).
5. Please detail how the aims and objectives of the exercise are determined and communicated to the parties involved.

We received your request on 27/05/2025 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. How many multi-agency exercises have been conducted by your organisation within the last 3 years (1st May 2022 to 30th April 2025 inclusive). – **Partially disclosed, between February 2023 and 30th April 2024, Staffordshire Police have participated in 22 multi-agency exercises. This is a mix of exercises run by the Force, the Civil Contingencies Unit (Local Resilience Forum) and regional Marauding Terrorist Attack group. Please note that information is not held prior to February 2023.**
- 2. What proportion of these multi-agency exercises were:
 - i. Tabletop / Scenario Based
 - ii. Live Exercises
 - iii. Other (please state). – **Disclosed, 15 live play and 7 tabletop.**



- 3. Please detail how post-exercise findings are fed back into the organisation and how any changes to policies and procedures are implemented as a result of this feedback. – **Disclosed, Civil Contingencies Unit led learning is fed back into the Force via the lessons register, Police led learning is taken to Operational or Organisational Learning Board for discussion or onward dissemination if required.**
- 4. What proportion of multi-agency exercises in the last 3 years:
 - i. Involved more than two CCA 2004 category one responder organisations (please detail)
 - ii. Involved CCA 2004 category two responders (please detail)
 - iii. Involved organisations from the voluntary and faith based sectors (please detail). – **Partially disclosed, all exercises involving the setup of Tactical Co-ordinating group/Strategic Co-ordinating group will have full Category One attendance and the majority of Category Two attendance. For Police planned/ Marauding Terrorist Attack group planned exercises, all have had three Category Ones in attendance. Further information is not held by Staffordshire Police, please see below.**
- 5. Please detail how the aims and objectives of the exercise are determined and communicated to the parties involved. – **Disclosed, for Police led/ Marauding Terrorist Attack group live play exercises, the primary driver for aims and objectives in the last few years has been either to test/validate an existing contingency or response plan, or to validate our response in light of one of several recommendations that have come from the Manchester Area enquiry. Local Resilience Forum led multi-agency exercises will consult on what each agency's primary objective will be in the given scenario. The aims and objectives are communicated to participants via the joining instructions sent in advance of the exercise. During the Marauding Terrorist Attack exercises these are re-iterated during the briefings.**

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.

Due to the fact that the Staffordshire Police sit as part of the wider local resilience forum, led by the Civil Contingencies Unit, many of the exercises in which we participate are designed and led by them. It may be beneficial to approach the Civil Contingencies Unit for further information on attendees for each exercise.

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.



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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/>

Freedom of Information



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