

Our Ref: FOI 21517
Your Ref: FOI 21375
Date: 02 July 2025

Internal Review

Re: Request for internal review of response to application for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, original request first notified to Staffordshire Police on 20/05/2025

We refer to the above request which was expressed in the following terms:

I would like to appeal because you do have the information. Please see the attached letter from Paul Talbot which states that "interim processes are in place". What are those processes? Please provide me with details of the processes and with copies of internal and/or external documents and communications relating to the implementation of those processes.

Further to the above, we also note the following comments made within your request for Internal Review.

Your response says:

"Disclosed, the interim process was a suspension of the existing strip search policy, pending national guidance. Likewise, there has been no internal/external communications."

1. If the interim process was simply a suspension of existing strip search policy, then what policy is now in place? Please provide a copy or details of the policy.
2. If you have, as claimed, suspended the existing policy, how was this communicated to officers and staff? I fail to see how you can claim to have changed or suspended policy when you say that "there has been no internal/external communications". So again, I ask you to provide details of communications.

Our Response

Upon review of your request for information under the Freedom of Information provision referenced above and all corresponding communication, we are of the opinion that the response issued, alongside all clarification provided, fully answers the terms of your request.

To reiterate, the Internal Review process is an opportunity for us as an organisation to revisit and assess our handling of your initial request and is not the correct mechanism through which further subsidiary questions should be posed.

Within your initial request you pose the question : Please see the attached letter from Paul Talbot which states that "interim processes are in place". What are those processes? Please provide me with details of the processes and with copies of internal and/or external documents and communications relating to the implementation of those processes.

Our initial response: “Disclosed, the interim process was a suspension of the existing strip search policy, pending national guidance.

In our opinion this addresses your question by outlining that the current interim process is a suspension of the existing strip search policy, pending national guidance. No documents can be provided as this is a suspension of the existing process and therefore no documents are held.

Within your initial request you pose the further question: Please provide me with copies of internal and/or external documents and communications relating to the implementation of those processes.

Our initial response: Likewise, there has been no internal/external communications.

No internal physical or electronically transmitted communications have been located and therefore these cannot be provided.

Please be advised that all FOI requests and response letters are published on the Staffordshire Police website although personal details are not included.

If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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/>

Central Disclosure Unit Management Team
Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police