

10 June 2025

FOI Ref 17978

Request - You asked us the following:

I'm writing to you to request information under the Freedom of Information Act. Please may I have the below information if available:

1. The number of blood tests sent to a lab for testing, taken from suspects of driving under the influence of drugs from June 2021 to June 2024.
2. How many of these tests took under one month to be returned with a result?
3. How many of these tests took between one to three months to be returned with a result?
4. How many of these tests took between three to six months to be returned with a result?
5. How many of these tests took over six months to be returned with a result?
6. How many of these tests were "lost" or were never returned with a result?

Can I please have the information split up on a year-by-year basis.

We received your request on 19/03/2025 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. The number of blood tests sent to a lab for testing, taken from suspects of driving under the influence of drugs from June 2021 to June 2024. – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**
- 2. How many of these tests took under one month to be returned with a result? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**
- 3. How many of these tests took between one to three months to be returned with a result? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**
- 4. How many of these tests took between three to six months to be returned with a result? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**
- 5. How many of these tests took over six months to be returned with a result? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**

- 6. How many of these tests were "lost" or were never returned with a result? – **Disclosed, please see accompanying file titled 'FOI 17978 Drug Driving Blood Tests Data.xlsx'.**

Please note that there are a number of inaccuracies within the data. This is relating to incorrect submission and report dates, which means we are unable to provide a timescale for how long each of these submissions took. We have contacted the data holder and they have been unable to provide accurate data with any further explanation we can share.

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.



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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