

4 June 2025

FOI Ref 21421

Request - You asked us the following:

1. If you can provide them, I would like to know the number for how many offence code 8/21 Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales, whether or not a public place, injuring any person or assistance dog, you have had in 2023, 2024 and how every many months of 2025 data you have, by month would be great if you have it. In your police force

2. It's my understanding there is no way of readily identifying breed of the dog from the crime recording system. In order to determine whether an attack took place and whether the breed of dog is mentioned, it would be necessary to examine each and every 008/21 investigation on an individual basis, including any associated documents.

If this is the case- would I be able to have any information from just the month of February 2024- with the breeds of dogs in these cases? In your police force

3. How many section 1 dogs under the dangerous dogs act/ banned breeds have been seized since December 31st 2024 monthly or a total to May 2025 in your police force

4. The number of dogs seized under section one of the dangerous dogs act that have been destroyed between the 31st December 2023 monthly or total to May 2025 in your police force

We received your request on 02/06/2025 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.

- 1. If you can provide them, I would like to know the number for how many offence code 8/21 Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales, whether or not a public place, injuring any person or assistance dog, you have had in 2023, 2024 and how every many months of 2025 data you have, by month would be great if you have it. In your police force – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21421 Dangerous Dogs Data.xlsx'.**
- 2. It's my understanding there is no way of readily identifying breed of the dog from the crime recording system. In order to determine whether an attack took place and whether the breed of dog is mentioned, it would be necessary to examine each and every 008/21 investigation on an individual basis, including any associated documents.
If this is the case- would I be able to have any information from just the month of February 2024- with the breeds of dogs in these cases? In your police force – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21421 Dangerous Dogs Data.xlsx'. Please note that in some occurrence records the breed of dog was not recorded.**

- 3. How many section 1 dogs under the dangerous dogs act/ banned breeds have been seized since December 31st 2024 monthly or a total to May 2025 in your police force – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21421 Dangerous Dogs Data.xlsx'. Please note that data is only held as a total figure.**
- 4. The number of dogs seized under section one of the dangerous dogs act that have been destroyed between the 31st December 2023 monthly or total to May 2025 in your police force – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21421 Dangerous Dogs Data.xlsx'. Please note that data is only held from February 2024 and as a total figure.**

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/incidents 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 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