

17 June 2025

FOI Ref 21453

Request - You asked us the following:

The request is for:

1- what is the current force policy on the compliant stopping of motor vehicles? Split by basic, standard and advanced drivers.

2- when was this policy (regarding compliant stop specifically) last updated?

3- what was the decision making behind the latest policy revision?

4- who was the relevant officer (name and role) who instigated the change to the policy? And who was the executive officer sponsor (if different)?

5- what is the College of Policing guidance on the provision and training of compliant stop?

If this differs to Staffordshire's Policy, please provide the information held as to the justification of why Staffordshire's policy differs to the College of Policing guidance.

6- what impact has the policy had on road safety within Staffordshire. How many fewer vehicles have been stopped since the change? How many fewer traffic offence reports have been completed?

7- what is the cost to deliver a Standard police driving course within Staffordshire? (Broken down into per student cost and by course type).

8- what is the current operational capacity of the driver training department? (Maximum number of driving school places available, substituting any annual leave, CPD and other abstractions). Again, split by driving course type.

9- how many driver training places were delivered in the last 6 months?

10- how far in advance are driver training courses allocated?

We received your request on 11/06/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds some of the requested information.

- The request is for:

- 1- what is the current force policy on the compliant stopping of motor vehicles? Split by basic, standard and advanced drivers. – **Disclosed, the current policy allows only trained response and advanced drivers to make compliant stops on vehicles.**
- 2- when was this policy (regarding compliant stop specifically) last updated? – **No information held.**
- 3- what was the decision making behind the latest policy revision? – **Disclosed, this was an annual review however no changes were made.**
- 4- who was the relevant officer (name and role) who instigated the change to the policy? And who was the executive officer sponsor (if different)? – **No information held.**
- 5- what is the College of Policing guidance on the provision and training of compliant stop? – **Withheld, please see the below exemption.**
- If this differs to Staffordshire's Policy, please provide the information held as to the justification of why Staffordshire's policy differs to the College of Policing guidance. – **Disclosed, Staffordshire differ from this only in as much as we don't allow basic drivers to conduct compliant stops. This is because the college state that basic drivers must be trained to do so, and currently Staffordshire Police do not train their basic drivers.**
- 6- what impact has the policy had on road safety within Staffordshire. How many fewer vehicles have been stopped since the change? How many fewer traffic offence reports have been completed? – **No information held as there has been no change to the policy.**
- 7- what is the cost to deliver a Standard police driving course within Staffordshire? (Broken down into per student cost and by course type). – **Disclosed, a driver response course costs £3313 per student.**
- 8- what is the current operational capacity of the driver training department? (Maximum number of driving school places available, substituting any annual leave, CPD and other abstractions). Again, split by driving course type. – **Disclosed, there is currently no spare capacity for courses.**
- 9- how many driver training places were delivered in the last 6 months? – **Disclosed, we have delivered 314 training places from 1st January 2025 to 31st May 2025.**
- 10- how far in advance are driver training courses allocated? – **Disclosed, we plan for courses 12 months in advance and look to allocate these to Officers with 6 month's notice.**

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.

The following exemption has been applied:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

- Section 21(1) - Information reasonably accessible by other means.

Section 21 is an absolute, class-based exemption and as such there is no requirement to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure, nor is there a requirement to perform a Public Interest Test.

Advice and assistance

In order to comply with our obligations under Section 16 of the Act, the obligation to provide advice and assistance, please find below links to the information requested.

- [Police driving | College of Policing](#)

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



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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