

10 March 2025

FOI Ref 17908

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to you requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Could you please provide me with the following information:

1. The number of rural police officers in your area by calendar year in:

- a. 2020
- b. 2021
- c. 2022
- d. 2023
- e. 2024

I would like this information in a digital format. If you have any questions please let me know.

We received your request on 03/03/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds some of the requested information.

- 1. The number of rural police officers in your area by calendar year in:
 - a. 2020 – No information held.
 - b. 2021 – No information held.
 - c. 2022 – No information held.
 - d. 2023 – No information held.
 - e. 2024 – **Disclosed, as of the 31/12 Staffordshire Police had 10 Police Officers.***

*Please be advised we do not have a Rural Crime Department. Therefore, this data pertains to the team County Proactive and Rural Crime Team which was created in October 2024. Furthermore, we have officers which are rural and wildlife trained and have to do this along side their daily duties which would not be included in this dataset. I have also attached a link which you may find beneficial.

[Rural priorities in focus of new dedicated proactive team | Staffordshire Police](#)

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.

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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