

23 April 2025

FOI Ref 21231

Request - You asked us the following:

Thanks for your response to my request (FOI 21170). For each of the below examples of uses of force you said your officers engaged in over the requested period in the last request, could you please tell me: the offence the suspect was arrested in relation to (please tell me if they were not), please tell me what the ground of suspicion for a search was, whether or not the person was charged with the crime they were arrested in relation to (or another crime they were not arrested in relation to), the age/race/ethnicity of the detainee at the time the force was used, as well as the age/race/ethnicity of the officer, whether the suspect sustained any injuries from the use of force, whether any compensation claims for any of the sustained injuries were paid (if so how much)/ whether any legal action was launched against the officer (if so what), and whether the officer was disciplined for their use of force (i.e. suspended/restricted duties, written warning etc).

- Pushed into wall of the cage in the carrier
- Pushed into carrier
- Detainee pulled by clothing by officers
- Punches to face due to suspect biting down on officers thumb

We received your request on 15/04/2025 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.

- Thanks for your response to my request (FOI 21170). For each of the below examples of uses of force you said your officers engaged in over the requested period in the last request, could you please tell me: the offence the suspect was arrested in relation to (please tell me if they were not), please tell me what the ground of suspicion for a search was, whether or not the person was charged with the crime they were arrested in relation to (or another crime they were not arrested in relation to), the age/race/ethnicity of the detainee at the time the force was used, as well as the age/race/ethnicity of the officer, whether the suspect sustained any injuries from the use of force, whether any compensation claims for any of the sustained injuries were paid (if so how much)/ whether any legal action was launched against the officer (if so what), and whether the officer was disciplined for their use of force (i.e. suspended/restricted duties, written warning etc).
 - Pushed into wall of the cage in the carrier
 - Pushed into carrier
 - Detainee pulled by clothing by officers
 - Punches to face due to suspect biting down on officers thumb – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 21231 Refinement of FOI 21170 Use of Force Data'.**

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 40(2) Personal Information**

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

To release personal or third-party information held by Staffordshire Police, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant.

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 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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

A safe and confident Staffordshire