

6 May 2025

FOI Ref 21266

Request - You asked us the following:

Is it possible to please send me a summary log of the "other" use of force incidents but this time for the months of January, February and March of 2025?

Clarification received from applicant 02/05/2025

In regards to my request (FOI 21266 refinement of FOI 21231) I want you to provide the information as you did before - i.e. the number of "other/improvised" use of force methods used by your officers over the requested period of time, broken down into the type of method used on each occasion

We received your request on 24/04/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

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

The following exemption has been applied:

- Section 12(1) where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.
- Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the prescribed limit'.

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which we can readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. Based on providing the data for FOI 21170 and FOI 21231. There have been more than 160 occurrences of use of force being used that have been recorded as 'other/improvised'. In order to provide this data for the time period you have requested a manual search through every record would be required to determine the same data as previously disclosed in the two previous FOI requests. Based upon the time taken to satisfy the previous requests it would take approximately 10 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 26 hours. In addition, a further 10 minutes to obtain the type of method used on each occasion so in total this would equate to over 52 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the FOI Act by some considerable margin.

Advice and assistance

Section 16 of the Act places an obligation upon the Authority to provide advice and assistance, in order to comply with this obligation please see below.

Unfortunately, we cannot suggest a way in which your request could be simplified or pared down in order to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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

Due to the number of requests/refinements already received on this topic, this request has been independently reviewed by the Central Disclosure Unit Management Team. No further requests will be accepted on this topic. If you are dissatisfied with your response. Please raise your concerns with the Information Commissioner's Office.

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