

3 November 2025

FOI Ref 21958

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information act:

Since January 2021, how many police officers at your force who are, were, or later became, authorised firearms officers, were also the subject of a misconduct investigation regarding alleged police perpetrated domestic abuse (regardless of outcome or if there was a case to answer)?

Please break down the numbers as outlined below:

- 1) The total number of police officers who were authorised firearms officers at the time their PPDA misconduct investigation was initiated and
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer,
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP
- 2) The total number of police officers who remained authorised firearms officers throughout their misconduct investigation and
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer,
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP
- 3) The total number of police officers who gained authorised firearms officer status having previously been the subject of a PPDA misconduct investigation (where this information is known)
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer,
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP

We received your request on 14/10/2025 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.

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information act:

Since January 2021, how many police officers at your force who are, were, or later became, authorised firearms officers, were also the subject of a misconduct investigation regarding alleged police perpetrated domestic abuse (regardless of outcome or if there was a case to answer)?

Please break down the numbers as outlined below:



- 1) The total number of police officers who were authorised firearms officers at the time their PPDA misconduct investigation was initiated and – **Disclosed, nil.**
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer – **Not applicable.**
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer, – **Not applicable.**
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP – **Not applicable.**
- 2) The total number of police officers who remained authorised firearms officers throughout their misconduct investigation and – **Disclosed, nil.**
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer – **Not applicable.**
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer, – **Not applicable.**
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP – **Not applicable.**
- 3) The total number of police officers who gained authorised firearms officer status having previously been the subject of a PPDA misconduct investigation (where this information is known) – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
 - o Of these, the number where the eventual result of the initial investigation was that
 - ☐ a) there was a case to answer – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
 - ☐ b) there was no case to answer, – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
 - ☐ c) the officer was referred to RPRP – **Neither confirm nor deny.**

Staffordshire Police can neither confirm or deny that it holds the information you requested for question 3, as it believes that the duty under section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the duty to confirm whether the public authority holds information of the specified description) does not apply.

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(5) Personal Information
Section 40(5) 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 that may or may not be 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.

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:

IAT@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Information Access Team
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 Information Access Team 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 a Supervisor who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Information Access Team 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 Supervisor 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.



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4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Supervisor will reply to the appellant with the result of the review. If the appellant 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 link:
<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team