

25 November 2025

FOI Ref 22030

Request - You asked us the following:

Please can you give this information from 2020 to date. However, if that would lead to the request being out of scope, please do as much as you can from 2025 working backwards

1. The number of incidents that your police force has attended that relate to, or were suspected to relate to, the organisation Palestine Action
2. The number of arrests and charges in relation to Palestine Action, this is for prior to the proscription in July 2025.
3. The number of arrests that your police force has made relating to the proscription of Palestine Action (so since summer 2025)
4. The number of charges that your police force has made relating to the proscription of Palestine Action (so since summer 2025)
5. For questions 2 and 3, please can you break down how many people have been arrested or charged. We understand that some people may have been arrested and charged multiple times.
6. Please can you specify how many people, if any, have been arrested and / or charged with being a member of Palestine Action?
7. Since the proscription of Palestine Action, how many police officers have been deployed to police protests about the proscription?
8. Do you have any reports or estimates of the costs of policing the protests against Palestine Action's proscription?
9. How many people have the force referred to Prevent in relation to Palestine Action?

We received your request on 29/10/2025 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 questions 1, 2 and part of 5 of this request. For the time period requested, there have been 431 possible incidents, in order to ascertain whether these incidents related to 'Palestine Action' the record for each one would require a manual review. Additionally, each one of these records would also need to be manually checked for any arrests or charges in relation to 'Palestine Action'. To extract this data would therefore require a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 6 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 43 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.

In order to refine your request, data can be provided for questions 3, 4, part of 5 (that relates to question 3), 6, 7, 8 and 9. Please be advised that further exemptions may be applied.

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.

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