

2 October 2025

FOI Ref 21894

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding Police Officers who hold personal firearms and shotgun certificates. Specifically I would be grateful if you could provide the following:

Since January 2021, how many police officers at your force, who are or have been holders of a personal firearms or shotgun certificate, have also been 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:

- The total number of police officers who had a personal firearms or shotgun certificate 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
- The total number of police officers who remained holders of personal firearms or shotgun certificate 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
- The total number of police officers who gained a personal firearms or shotgun certificate 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 26/09/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police holds/does not hold the requested information

- Since January 2021, how many police officers at your force, who are or have been holders of a personal firearms or shotgun certificate, have also been the subject of a misconduct investigation regarding alleged police perpetrated domestic abuse (regardless of outcome or if there was a case to answer)? – **Partially disclosed, nil.**



Please note that the data disclosed doesn't include officers that have since retired and applied for a firearms or shotgun certificate after 01/01/2021 where they have changed occupation as we do not hold this data.

Please break down the numbers as outlined below:

- The total number of police officers who had a personal firearms or shotgun certificate at the time their PPDA misconduct investigation was initiated and
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 – **Not applicable.**
- The total number of police officers who remained holders of personal firearms or shotgun certificate throughout their misconduct investigation and
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 – **Not applicable.**
- The total number of police officers who gained a personal firearms or shotgun certificate having previously been the subject of a PPDA misconduct investigation (where this information is known)
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 – **Not applicable.**

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.

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.



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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:

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