

27 October 2025

FOI Ref 21975

Request - You asked us the following:

have reviewed the Government's most recently published data on "Police officers per 100,000 population by police force area" (as of 31 March 2024), which indicates that Staffordshire Police is among the least well-resourced forces in England and Wales on a population basis.

In order to better understand how these figures are derived and how police resources are distributed within Staffordshire, I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. Granularity of Data Used for County-Level Statistics

Please confirm what geographic divisions or operational areas are used to compile Staffordshire's published "police officers per 100,000 population" figures.

o Specifically, are these figures aggregated solely at the County/Police Force Area level, or do they incorporate data from smaller divisions such as Local Policing Areas (LPAs), Basic Command Units (BCUs), or individual Districts?

2. Sub-Area Officer Data within Staffordshire

If available, please provide the corresponding data for each of the sub-areas used internally within Staffordshire — showing the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers and the equivalent "officers per 100,000 population" figure for each sub-area.

o Please provide these figures in the same format as the published Home Office data (headcount, rate per 100,000 population, and reference date).

3. Tamworth-specific Data (if held)

If available, please provide the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers based in or assigned to Tamworth, as at the latest available date, expressed where possible in the same "officers per 100,000 population" format.

o If this data is held locally (for instance by the Tamworth Local Policing Team or the Chief Inspector responsible for Tamworth), please include it or forward this request to the appropriate holder.

For clarity, I am seeking only warranted police officer headcount data (excluding PCSOs, Special Constables, or civilian staff).

Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to your response within the statutory 20 working days.

We received your request on 16/10/2025 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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

Staffordshire Police does not hold the requested information.

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Please confirm what geographic divisions or operational areas are used to compile Staffordshire's published "police officers per 100,000 population" figures. – **No information held.**

o Specifically, are these figures aggregated solely at the County/Police Force Area level, or do they incorporate data from smaller divisions such as Local Policing Areas (LPAs), Basic Command Units (BCUs), or individual Districts? – **No information held.**

2. Sub-Area Officer Data within Staffordshire

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o If this data is held locally (for instance by the Tamworth Local Policing Team or the Chief Inspector responsible for Tamworth), please include it or forward this request to the appropriate holder. For clarity, I am seeking only warranted police officer headcount data (excluding PCSOs, Special Constables, or civilian staff). – **No information held.**

Staffordshire Police do not calculate officer numbers per 100,000 population.

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.

You may wish to contact the House of Commons for comment upon how they have calculated the data published.

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

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