

20 October 2025

FOI Ref 21991

Request - You asked us the following:

We continue to have speeding cars through woodseaves stafford A519. We had average speed cameras installed at the beginning of the village and end of village and would like to know the following:

- 1, Are they working
- 2, How often are the switched on
- 3, How many fines have been issued since they were installed

Request amended on 20/10/2025:

Question 3: the number of recorded speeding offences for the location requested (excluding offences which have been cancelled/no further action).

We received your request on 20/10/2025 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.

We continue to have speeding cars through woodseaves stafford A519. We had average speed cameras installed at the beginning of the village and end of village and would like to know the following:

- 1, Are they working – **Withheld.**
- 2, How often are the switched on – **Withheld.**
- 3: the number of recorded speeding offences for the location requested (excluding offences which have been cancelled/no further action). – **Disclosed, there have been 5,017 captured offences since September 2019.**

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 parts of this particular request.

- Section 31 (1) (a) (b) - Law Enforcement.

Information is exempt from disclosure under S31 (1) (a) (b) where the release of Information would, or would likely to, prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and/ or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. This exemption is qualified and prejudice-based and, as such, we are required to evidence the harm in disclosure and apply the public interest test.

Harm:

The presence of speed cameras within Staffordshire has had a positive impact upon road safety. Disclosing whether the speed camera in a particular location is active or not would indicate the use of such resources available to Staffordshire Police to deal with speeding offences. The release of such information would identify camera activity and with it any perceived abilities to monitor such offences. This in turn would increase the risk to the physical safety of road users. To disclose the exempt information would cause harm to the Police service's ability to protect the public it serves and could prejudice its ability to perform the core function of the prevention and detection of crime.

Public Interest Test**Factors favouring disclosure under Section 31(1)(a)(b)**

To disclose this information would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent, it would also lead to a better public awareness of the workings of the police force and the communications used with operations and during routine policing.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 31(1)(a)(b)

Releasing such data would give those individuals with the intent to do so, the intelligence required to disrupt police activity. As outlined in the harm, disclosure would undermine the force's ability to effectively work as a law enforcement agency. Where the current or future law enforcement role of the force may be compromised by the release of information, the effectiveness of the force will be reduced. Disclosing the activity of these cameras would undermine the policing purpose of the deployment of cameras. It would inform those with disregard for the law, whether their speeding is more or less likely to be caught on camera. This could then have an impact on the safety of other motorists if the perception is that they are unlikely to be caught speeding. Speeding above the stated limit is an offence and withholding this information from the public ensures that any driver who exceeds the speed limit would maintain the perception that they are risking criminal liability. Any disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

Balance test

When considering whether disclosure is appropriate, we must weigh the strongest reason for disclosure against the strongest reasons for non-disclosure. In this case, whilst the factors favouring disclosure are important in that it would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent, we believe when weighed against the risk of disclosure undermining our ability to prevent and detect crime and hindering our ability to protect the public, then non-disclosure takes precedence.

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. Additional offences/incidents may have been recorded during these timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

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.

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