

15 September 2025

FOI Ref 21606

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) to formally request disclosure of all relevant information and evidence relating to Community Speed Watch (CSW) operations in connection with your reference number [REDACTED]

This request also relates to the general conduct and legality of CSW activities in this area. Please provide responses to each point in full, supported by applicable legislation, policies, and documented procedures.

1. Speed Detection Equipment

- Technical Accuracy and Certification
- The make and model of the speed detection device used on 11/07/2025 at the above location.
- Whether the device complies with the Home Office Type Approval Scheme and provide proof of such approval.
- A copy of the most recent calibration certificate for the equipment used on the day in question.
- The full calibration and testing history of the device for the last 12 months.
- Details of who calibrated the equipment and the standards to which it was tested (e.g. UKAS accreditation).
- Any manufacturer specifications for accuracy and error tolerances.
- Confirm whether any pre-use equipment checks were carried out on 11/07/2025 by CSW operatives and supply a copy of any relevant checklists or logs.

2. Volunteer Training and Operational Protocols

- The training materials or manuals provided to CSW volunteers in Staffordshire.
- Confirmation of whether volunteers involved in this specific operation were trained and when that training occurred.
- Any certification process or assessment required before volunteers are permitted to operate speed detection equipment.
- The Staffordshire Police standard operating procedure (SOP) for CSW deployments.
- Whether a police officer or trained staff member supervised this particular CSW session.
- What internal safeguards and audit procedures exist to prevent misreporting or misuse of equipment by volunteers.

3. Signage and Public Notification

- Whether CSW signage (temporary or permanent) was deployed on Hayfield Hill on 11/07/2025.
- The exact location and nature of any signage used (e.g., fold-out roadside sign, fixed warning board, etc.).
- Photographic or documentary evidence confirming the placement and visibility of CSW warning signs on that date.
- Any Staffordshire Police policy, national guidance (e.g. DfT, Home Office), or legal requirement regarding the mandatory or recommended use of signage during CSW operations.



- If signage was not displayed, explain whether this invalidates or limits the use of the data collected under CSW protocols.

4. Observational Records and Incident Data

- All records logged for vehicle [REDACTED] on 11/07/2025, including the recorded speed, time, direction of travel, and weather conditions.
- Whether the vehicle was photographed, filmed, or otherwise documented.
- The identity (anonymised if necessary) and number of volunteers who recorded the offence.
- A copy of any recorded statement or evidence log.
- Whether this was recorded using two volunteers independently validating the speed.
- Whether this incident was subject to any quality control or review before the warning letter was sent.

5. Legal Standing and Enforcement Authority - Under what specific powers in UK law CSW schemes operate, and whether there is any statutory authority permitting volunteers to issue enforceable notices or trigger prosecution.

- The legal status of the letter I received (Ref: [REDACTED]): Does it have any basis in law, or is it advisory only?
- Whether this warning is retained on a police database or shared with other enforcement agencies.
- Any relevant national CSW guidance (e.g. National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) guidance, Department for Transport policy, or Home Office regulations) used by Staffordshire Police to legitimise CSW operations and notices.
- The criteria and thresholds for issuing a "final written warning", as referenced in your letter.

6. Road Safety Data for Justification

- A full list of road traffic collisions (RTCs), casualties, serious injuries, and fatalities on Hayfield Hill (between the Redmore Inn and the junction with Cumberledge Hill) in the past five years.
- For each incident, please include: date, time, severity, suspected cause(s), whether speeding was a contributory factor, and whether CSW was deployed in the area at the time.
- Whether the installation of the new illuminated speed warning sign near Redmore Inn followed a safety audit or was based on casualty data.
- The make/model and maintenance schedule of the speed sign and whether it logs data.

7. Complaints and Public Oversight

- The number of formal complaints received by Staffordshire Police relating to the Community Speed Watch scheme in the last 5 years.
- The number of incidents where warnings were found to be inaccurate, withdrawn, or issued in error.
- Any internal reviews, audits, or misconduct investigations relating to CSW operations.

Amended request received on 15/09/2025:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) to formally request disclosure of all relevant information and evidence relating to Community Speed Watch (CSW) operations in Cannock Wood – Hayfield Hill.

This request also relates to the general conduct and legality of CSW activities in this area. Please provide responses to each point in full, supported by applicable legislation, policies, and documented procedures.

1. Speed Detection Equipment – Technical Accuracy and Certification

- The make and model of the speed detection device used on 11/07/2025 at the above location.



- Whether the device complies with the Home Office Type Approval Scheme and provide proof of such approval.
 - A copy of the most recent calibration certificate for the equipment used on the day in question.
 - The full calibration and testing history of the device for the last 12 months.
 - Details of who calibrated the equipment and the standards to which it was tested (e.g. UKAS accreditation).
 - Any manufacturer specifications for accuracy and error tolerances.
 - Confirm whether any pre-use equipment checks were carried out on 11/07/2025 by CSW operatives and supply a copy of any relevant checklists or logs.
2. Volunteer Training and Operational Protocols
- The training materials or manuals provided to CSW volunteers in Staffordshire.
 - Confirmation of whether volunteers involved in this specific operation were trained and when that training occurred.
 - Any certification process or assessment required before volunteers are permitted to operate speed detection equipment.
 - The Staffordshire Police standard operating procedure (SOP) for CSW deployments.
 - Whether a police officer or trained staff member supervised this particular CSW session.
 - What internal safeguards and audit procedures exist to prevent misreporting or misuse of equipment by volunteers.
3. Signage and Public Notification
- Whether CSW signage (temporary or permanent) was deployed on Hayfield Hill on 11/07/2025.
 - The exact location and nature of any signage used (e.g., fold-out roadside sign, fixed warning board, etc.).
 - Photographic or documentary evidence confirming the placement and visibility of CSW warning signs on that date.
 - Any Staffordshire Police policy, national guidance (e.g. DfT, Home Office), or legal requirement regarding the mandatory or recommended use of signage during CSW operations.
 - If signage was not displayed, explain whether this invalidates or limits the use of the data collected under CSW protocols.
4. Observational Records and Incident Data
- All records logged for vehicles on 11/07/2025, including the recorded speed, time, direction of travel, and weather conditions.
 - Whether the vehicle was photographed, filmed, or otherwise documented.
 - The identity (anonymised if necessary) and number of volunteers who recorded the offence.
 - A copy of any recorded statement or evidence log.
 - Whether this was recorded using two volunteers independently validating the speed.
 - Whether this incident was subject to any quality control or review before the warning letter was sent.
5. Legal Standing and Enforcement Authority
- Under what specific powers in UK law CSW schemes operate, and whether there is any statutory authority permitting volunteers to issue enforceable notices or trigger prosecution.
 - The legal status of the letter received from the police regarding speed on this date - Does it have any basis in law, or is it advisory only?
 - Whether this warning is retained on a police database or shared with other enforcement agencies.
 - Any relevant national CSW guidance (e.g. National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) guidance, Department for Transport policy, or Home Office regulations) used by Staffordshire Police to legitimise CSW operations and notices.
 - The criteria and thresholds for issuing a "final written warning", as referenced in your letter.



6. Road Safety Data for Justification

- A full list of road traffic collisions (RTCs), casualties, serious injuries, and fatalities on Hayfield Hill (between the Redmore Inn and the junction with Cumberledge Hill) in the past five years.
- For each incident, please include: date, time, severity, suspected cause(s), whether speeding was a contributory factor, and whether CSW was deployed in the area at the time.
- Whether the installation of the new illuminated speed warning sign near Redmore Inn followed a safety audit or was based on casualty data.
- The make/model and maintenance schedule of the speed sign and whether it logs data.

7. Complaints and Public Oversight

- The number of formal complaints received by Staffordshire Police relating to the Community Speed Watch scheme in the last 5 years.
- The number of incidents where warnings were found to be inaccurate, withdrawn, or issued in error.
- Any internal reviews, audits, or misconduct investigations relating to CSW operations.

We received your request on 21/07/2025 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.

1. Speed Detection Equipment – Technical Accuracy and Certification

- - The make and model of the speed detection device used on 11/07/2025 at the above location.– **Disclosed, Genisis GHD11837.**
- - Whether the device complies with the Home Office Type Approval Scheme and provide proof of such approval. – **No information held. Please note that this is not required.**
- - A copy of the most recent calibration certificate for the equipment used on the day in question.– **No information held. Please note that a certificate is not required.**
- - The full calibration and testing history of the device for the last 12 months.– **Disclosed, between 11/07/24 and 11/07/2025 the device has been used 29 times in total and indicated PASS on 58 occasions.**
- - Details of who calibrated the equipment and the standards to which it was tested (e.g. UKAS accreditation). – **Partially disclosed, upon purchase the device was tested by Unipar Services. The radar is fully compliant with the European Directive 1999/5/EC which is a mandatory requirement for all radar equipment being operated within the United Kingdom. To comply with this directive, this equipment has been certified to EN301489-3 V1.41. (EMC) EN300 440—1V1.3.1 (2001-09) (Radio Testing) and EN60950-1:2001 (LVD Safety Tess).**
- - Any manufacturer specifications for accuracy and error tolerances. – **Disclosed, +/- 1mph.**
- - Confirm whether any pre-use equipment checks were carried out on 11/07/2025 by CSW operatives and supply a copy of any relevant checklists or logs. – **Partially disclosed, pre-use equipment checks were carried out. We do not hold any checklists or logs.**

2. Volunteer Training and Operational Protocols

- - The training materials or manuals provided to CSW volunteers in Staffordshire. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21606 Community Speed Watch Data.PDF'.**
- - Confirmation of whether volunteers involved in this specific operation were trained and when that training occurred. – **Disclosed, the volunteers attended a 3 hour training course on 21/10/2023.**
- - Any certification process or assessment required before volunteers are permitted to operate speed detection equipment. – **No information held.**
- - The Staffordshire Police standard operating procedure (SOP) for CSW deployments. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21606 Community Speed Watch Data.PDF'.**
- - Whether a police officer or trained staff member supervised this particular CSW session. – **Disclosed, no. Please note that supervision is not required.**
- - What internal safeguards and audit procedures exist to prevent misreporting or misuse of equipment by volunteers.- **Disclosed, regular checks are carried out to prevent such things happening.**

3. Signage and Public Notification

- - Whether CSW signage (temporary or permanent) was deployed on Hayfield Hill on 11/07/2025. – **Disclosed, 3 permanent CSW signs are in place.**
- - The exact location and nature of any signage used (e.g., fold-out roadside sign, fixed warning board, etc.) – **Disclosed, the 3 signs are located on Cumberledge Hill, Buds Road and Mayfield Hill covering entry points to the village/CSW locations.**
- - Photographic or documentary evidence confirming the placement and visibility of CSW warning signs on that date. – **No information held.**
- - Any Staffordshire Police policy, national guidance (e.g. DfT, Home Office), or legal requirement regarding the mandatory or recommended use of signage during CSW operations. – **No information held.**
- - If signage was not displayed, explain whether this invalidates or limits the use of the data collected under CSW protocols. – **No information held.**

4. Observational Records and Incident Data

- - All records logged for vehicles on 11/07/2025, including the recorded speed, time, direction of travel, and weather conditions. – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21606 Community Speed Watch Data.PDF'.**



- - Whether the vehicle was photographed, filmed, or otherwise documented. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - The identity (anonymised if necessary) and number of volunteers who recorded the offence. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - A copy of any recorded statement or evidence log. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - Whether this was recorded using two volunteers independently validating the speed. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - Whether this incident was subject to any quality control or review before the warning letter was sent. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**

5. Legal Standing and Enforcement Authority

- - Under what specific powers in UK law CSW schemes operate, and whether there is any statutory authority permitting volunteers to issue enforceable notices or trigger prosecution. – **Disclosed, CSW letters are educational warnings and are not enforceable.**
- - The legal status of the letter received from the police regarding speed on this date - Does it have any basis in law, or is it advisory only? **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - Whether this warning is retained on a police database or shared with other enforcement agencies. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**
- - Any relevant national CSW guidance (e.g. National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) guidance, Department for Transport policy, or Home Office regulations) used by Staffordshire Police to legitimise CSW operations and notices. – **No information held. The College of Policing describe CSW as a National Initiative. Please see the following link for further information: <https://www.college.police.uk/support-forces/practices/community-speedwatch-scheme>**
- - The criteria and thresholds for issuing a "final written warning", as referenced in your letter. – **Neither confirm nor deny.**

6. Road Safety Data for Justification

- - A full list of road traffic collisions (RTCs), casualties, serious injuries, and fatalities on Hayfield Hill (between the Redmore Inn and the junction with Cumberledge Hill) in the past five years. – **Disclosed, nil.**
- - For each incident, please include: date, time, severity, suspected cause(s), whether speeding was a contributory factor, and whether CSW was deployed in the area at the time. – **No information held.**
- - Whether the installation of the new illuminated speed warning sign near Redmore Inn followed a safety audit or was based on casualty data. – **No information held.**

- - The make/model and maintenance schedule of the speed sign and whether it logs data. – **No information held.**

7. Complaints and Public Oversight

- - The number of formal complaints received by Staffordshire Police relating to the Community Speed Watch scheme in the last 5 years. – **Disclosed, 2.**
- - The number of incidents where warnings were found to be inaccurate, withdrawn, or issued in error. – **No information held.**
- - Any internal reviews, audits, or misconduct investigations relating to CSW operations. – **No information held.**

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 40(2) Personal Information

Section 40(2) 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 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. This request and response will be published on the Staffordshire Police website.

Staffordshire Police can neither confirm or deny that it holds some of the information you requested as it believes that the duty under s1(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 parts of 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.

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.

An individual can access personal information which Staffordshire Police may or may not hold, by making an application under the Right of Access (formerly known as Subject Access) provision of the Data Protection Act 2018.

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/rqo/request/ri/request-information/ir/ask-for-delete-change-information/>

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:

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