

5 September 2025

FOI Ref 21738

Request - You asked us the following:

I am requesting the following information held by your constabulary for the periods:

- 1 January to 31 December 2024
- 1 January to 31 July 2025 (or 31 August 2025, if available at the time of response)

Please provide a breakdown of the data for each council area or policing district within your constabulary's jurisdiction, where applicable.

For each council area/district, please provide:

1. Speeding offences – The total number of speeding tickets or fines issued during each period, along with the month in each period that recorded the highest number of offences.
2. Drink driving offences – The total number of recorded drink driving offences during each period, along with the month in each period that recorded the highest number of offences.
3. Car theft incidents – The total number of reported car theft incidents during each period, along with the month in each period that recorded the highest number of incidents.
4. Causes of car accidents – The leading cause of car accidents during each period, along with the month in each period in which this leading cause resulted in the highest number of accidents.
5. Seatbelt-related fatalities – The total number of fatalities caused by not wearing a seatbelt during each period, along with the month in each period that recorded the highest number of such fatalities.
6. Dropped kerb offences – The total number of enforcement actions (tickets, fines or penalty charge notices) issued for vehicles obstructing or parking on a dropped kerb during each period, along with the month in each period that recorded the highest number of such offences.

If possible, please provide the data in a spreadsheet format (e.g. CSV or Excel), with separate columns for each council area/district and period to allow for easier analysis.

We received your request on 13/08/2025 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 part of this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 2,960 occurrences of 'theft of a motor vehicle'. The record for all of these occurrences would firstly need to be manually reviewed in order to

determine if it was a car that was stolen and the cause of the car accident. 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 5 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 246 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.

If your request was amended, Staffordshire Police would be able to provide the following:
Between the time periods 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024 and 01/01/2025 - 31/07/2025. Data could be provided for the number of theft of motor vehicle, speeding, drink driving offences and seatbelt-related fatalities for each month. Furthermore, please note we do not record dropped kerb offences.

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