

11 September 2025

FOI Ref 21793

Request - You asked us the following:

1. For the past 10 years (2015–2025), please provide annual recorded crime statistics for your force area, broken down by:
 - o Type of crime (e.g., violent crime, property crime, sexual offences, drug offences, etc.).
 - o Offender nationality where recorded.
 - o Offender religion where recorded.
 - o If religion or nationality are not recorded – why?
2. If available, please provide any reports, statistical datasets, or analysis your force holds regarding:
 - o The number of arrests or convictions of individuals identified as being in the UK without legal immigration status (“illegal immigrants”).
 - o Trends in offender nationality or religion over the past 10 years.
 - o Any correlations or patterns your force has documented between immigration status, religion, and crime rates.
3. If exact data is not available, please provide any summary reports, briefings, or prepared documents held by the force on these topics.

We received your request on 28/08/2025 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 parts of this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 7,800 arrests whereby the detainee nationality is not British, in order to ascertain whether the individuals arrested were identified as being in the UK without legal immigration status, the record for each one would require a manual review. 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 3 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 390 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.

In order to refine your request, data can be provided for question 1 for the number of crimes along with the type of crime and also the offender nationality (where this has been recorded) from 2015 to 2025. Please note that we do not routinely record offender religion and offender nationality is only partially recorded where an Officer has completed this field. This is due to both of these fields not being compulsory to complete when entering them onto our crime recording database, therefore there will be a lot of blank fields and this may not be a true representation of the data being requested. Please be advised that we do not hold any information with regards to reports, analysis, briefings or documents relating to any trends, correlations or patterns regarding the information being requested.

Staffordshire Police do not hold conviction data. We would advise that you approach the Government HM Courts & Tribunals service website.

Please find below links to previously disclosed HMCTS data and details upon how to submit a further Freedom of Information request to the Government HM Courts and Tribunals Service for this information.

Make an FOI request - [how to make a request](#).

Check [our previous releases](#) to see if we've already answered your question - [our previous releases](#)

Make a new request by using the details below.

FOI requests

Disclosure Team

Postal Point 10.38, Floor 10

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

United Kingdom

Email

data.access@justice.gov.uk

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