

16 September 2025

FOI Ref 21794

Request - You asked us the following:

I am submitting an information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I wish to refer to the FOI request number 21759 which was submitted on the 18th August and responded to on the 28th August.

Within this response it is confirmed that the Community Protection Warning (CPW) issued to the Albrighton & Woodland Hunt Limited is still in place. The response also confirms that edits have been made to this CPW. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I wish to request information detailing what these edits are a copy of the latest version of the CPW.

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:

Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.

- I am submitting an information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I wish to refer to the FOI request number 21759 which was submitted on the 18th August and responded to on the 28th August.
- Within this response it is confirmed that the Community Protection Warning (CPW) issued to the Albrighton & Woodland Hunt Limited is still in place. The response also confirms that edits have been made to this CPW. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I wish to request information detailing what these edits are a copy of the latest version of the CPW. – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 21794 2025 – July AW Hunt'. Please see the below exemptions.**

The following exemptions have 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.

- 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.

Harm:

To provide the specific details of the edits that have been made to the requested Community Protection Warning along with releasing the full details of the conditions of the CPW could undermine existing or future investigations and operations and would affect operational policing. It could cause disruption to all individuals involved and may prejudice the prevention and detection of crime. Knowing the specific information related to the CPW would allow disruption to events relating to those involved and could burden the force by creating additional incidents and unrest that Officers would have to attend to.

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.

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

Releasing such data would divulge specific information and details required to potentially disrupt the hunt and any necessary police activity to protect members of the public at any event. This knowledge could allow individuals intent on committing crime to use the information disclosed to disrupt the hunt and this could lead to an increased likelihood of police incidents and an increased danger to the public and Officers. 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 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