

15 September 2025

FOI Ref 21843

Request - You asked us the following:

Thank you for your email. Please can you provide the ethnicity codes that you use as a force to record data? Also, are you aware of the Real Time Suicide Surveillance System that is used by many Police Forces in conjunction with Public Health teams in local government?

Previous FOI Request 21821

Thank you and I'm happy to redefine the search to suspected suicides only.

Original request FOI 21697

The Campaign for Racial Justice in Suicide Prevention is writing to request information on the following:

- a) The number of suspected suicides and attempted suicides by ethnicity for the period 2000-2025.
- b) A copy of the ethnicity dataset/codes used in such data recording.

Clarification from applicant received 04/09/2025

Email from applicant:
Please see below.

Thank you and I can contact firm acceptance of data related to sudden deaths and where ethnicity is recorded.

We received your request on 11/09/2025 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.

- Please can you provide the ethnicity codes that you use as a force to record data? – **Disclosed, in relation to sudden deaths recorded within the Staffordshire Police area where suicide was suspected, we use the Identity Codes (IC Codes), which have been broken down in FOI 21821.**
- Also, are you aware of the Real Time Suicide Surveillance System that is used by many Police Forces in conjunction with Public Health teams in local government? – **Disclosed, yes.**

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.

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:

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.



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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