

19 September 2025

FOI Ref 21859

Request - You asked us the following:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.

If this information is already publicly available or you might be able to guide me to another information source, any advice would be gladly received.

1. Please provide data of anti-social behaviour reports between August 2019 and July 2025, set out in a month-by-month form. The data should be disclosed in a granular, non-aggregated form and shared in .csv format.

The information included in the columns of the table should include:

Crime.ID

Month

Reported.by

Longitude

Latitude

Location

LSOA.code

LSOA.name

Outcome

Context

Type of ASB (environmental, personal or nuisance)

Police officer dispatched (Y/N)

Arrest made (Y/N)

2. Where possible, please further break down the type of anti-social behaviour by the 13 types set out by the Home Office and listed below:

1. Vehicle abandoned

2. Vehicle nuisance or inappropriate use

3. Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour

4. Rowdy or nuisance neighbours

5. Littering or drugs paraphernalia

6. Animal problems

7. Trespassing

8. Nuisance calls

9. Street drinking

10. Activity relating to sex workers or sex working

11. Nuisance noise

12. Begging

13. Misuse of fireworks

We received your request on 17/09/2025 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 this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 137,000 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded in our incident recording system. In order to determine whether an arrest was made, the record for each incident would require manual review. Further review would also be required in order to determine the context and outcome of each incident, and to determine which category the incident would fall into as per question 2. 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 11,416 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information 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 number of anti-social behaviour incidents recorded between August 2019 and July 2025, broken down by month/year, call type description, location and whether the incident was resourced.

Please note that we do not record by latitude, longitude, LSOA code or LSOA name. Please also note that we would not disclose reference numbers or the names of those making the incident reports as this would disclose personal information.

Please be advised that we would only be able to provide data in separate tables (i.e. one table for monthly breakdown, one table for call type description) to avoid identifiable information being disclosed into the public domain, and we would prefer to disclose this in a '.xlsx' format.

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