

22 April 2026

FOI Ref 22686

Request - You asked Staffordshire Police (SP) the following:

How many weapons were seized/recovered from:

- a) stop and searches,
- b) searches requiring a warrant,
- c) amnesties, and
- d) weapon sweeps during the most recent Operation Sceptre campaign, held 17-23 November 2025?

Please note I am only seeking information of any weapons seized/ recovered during the period 17th November to 23rd November 2025.

SP received your request on 23/03/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP holds/does not hold the requested information.

How many weapons were seized/recovered from:

- a) stop and searches, - **Disclosed, 10 bladed weapons were seized.**
- b) searches requiring a warrant, - **Unknown***
- c) amnesties, and – **No information held, however approximately 2,000 knives were destroyed during the week of action, but these would have been handed in over the prior few months.**
- d) weapon sweeps during the most recent Operation Sceptre campaign, held 17-23 November 2025? – **Disclosed, 31 knives were located and seized in 32 knife sweeps.**

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of the ability of SP, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software. Additional offences/incidents may have been recorded during these timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

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.



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Consequently, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, 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 SP website although personal details are not included.

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.

*We have made numerous exhaustive attempts to obtain the data you have requested from the relevant data holders within the force. However, following all attempts, we have been unable to receive a satisfactory response from the data holder with which to provide a response to your request. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your information request, you can make an appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The easiest way to lodge your appeal is via their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

If you are unhappy with this response you can 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