

10 April 2026

FOI Ref 22737

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

I request the following information for the period 1 January 2019 to 1 April 2025:

1. The total number of investigations, enquiries or operational tasks that your force has outsourced, contracted or commissioned to any private investigation firm, private detective agency or external investigator (excluding other public bodies and law enforcement agencies).

2. For each investigation, please provide:

- the name of the private investigation firm or individual engaged;
- the nature or category of the investigation or task (e.g. surveillance, background checks, fraud, digital forensics, process serving, asset tracing);
- the value of the contract or fee paid, or an estimate if the precise figure is not held centrally;
- The date, by month and/or year, the investigation was commissioned or outsourced.
- The total number of investigations, enquiries or operational tasks that your force has outsourced, contracted or commissioned to TM Eye Limited, the nature or category of the investigation or task, and the value of the contract or fee paid.

SP received your request on 07/04/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP holds the requested information.

- I request the following information for the period 1 January 2019 to 1 April 2025:
- 1. The total number of investigations, enquiries or operational tasks that your force has outsourced, contracted or commissioned to any private investigation firm, private detective agency or external investigator (excluding other public bodies and law enforcement agencies). – **Disclosed, nil.**
- 2. For each investigation, please provide:
 - the name of the private investigation firm or individual engaged;
 - the nature or category of the investigation or task (e.g. surveillance, background checks, fraud, digital forensics, process serving, asset tracing);
 - the value of the contract or fee paid, or an estimate if the precise figure is not held centrally;
 - The date, by month and/or year, the investigation was commissioned or outsourced.
 - The total number of investigations, enquiries or operational tasks that your force has outsourced, contracted or commissioned to TM Eye Limited, the nature or category of the investigation or task, and the value of the contract or fee paid.
 - **Not applicable.**

Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the SP 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 SP, 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:

IAT@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 SP 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 twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to forty 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, considering 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