

9 April 2026

FOI Ref 22742

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

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request recorded information relating to a reported object on or over the A50 in Staffordshire on 27 February 2025.

This request is separate from any previous correspondence and is focused on identifying whether such a reported event was recorded, and in which systems such information would be held.

Context

I understand that during an incident on this date, an attending officer (captured on body-worn video) stated that an object had been reported as thrown over the carriageway, reportedly originating from Highways or a similar source.

This request does not seek any personal data and is limited to recorded information about the reported object and associated logs.

Request

Please search all relevant systems, including but not limited to:

- * Command and control / incident logging systems (e.g. STORM or equivalent)
- * Control room call logs and incident records
- * Any records of communication with National Highways or equivalent agencies
- * Any other operational systems or logs where such reports may reasonably be expected to be recorded

and provide the following:

1. Incident records

Any incident logs, call records, or system entries recorded on 27 February 2025 relating to:

- * an object reported as thrown, or
- * an object reported on or over the A50 carriageway

2. Recorded details

For any records identified, please provide:

- * Date and time
- * Description or classification of the object (e.g. debris, obstruction, property, road hazard)
- * Source of the report (e.g. member of public, Highways, patrol)
- * Any recorded outcome (e.g. attended, not attended, removed, not found)

3. Systems searched

Please specify:

- * The systems and databases searched
- * The search methods used (including any keywords, filters, or categories applied, where applicable)

4. Recording practices and retrievability Please confirm:



- a) Whether reports from National Highways (or similar agencies) of objects thrown onto or over the A50 would normally be recorded by Staffordshire Police, and in which system(s)
- b) Whether such reports would be expected to generate:
- * an incident log
 - * a control room entry
 - * or any other retrievable record
- c) If no information is located for 27 February 2025, please confirm whether:
- * no such report was received, or
 - * a report may have been received but is not retrievable via standard search methods, or is only held within free-text or non-searchable fields

5. Duty to assist

If the requested information cannot be located based on the above parameters, please provide reasonable advice and assistance under Section 16 of the Act as to:

- * how such information may be held or recorded
- * whether alternative search terms, systems, or approaches would be required to locate it Clarification
- * This request is not limited to Road Traffic Collision data
- * It includes non-collision incidents, hazard reports, and calls for service
- * Where information is held in free-text fields, I request reasonable keyword searches (e.g. "object", "thrown", "A50", "debris", "item", "property", "hazard", "dropped")

Format

I am content to receive the information in summary or table form.

SP received your request on 08/04/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP'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 request.

The following exemption has been applied:

- Section 14(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.

SP are not providing the information you have requested as SP have determined that your request is vexatious under Section 14(1) Vexatious Requests.

The Information Commissioner's guidance on the subject makes it clear that Section 14(1) may be applied where a request, or its impact on a public authority, cannot be justified.

The key question to consider is whether the request is likely to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation or distress based on the impact of the authority, weighed against any evidence about the purpose and value of the request. SP are also entitled to consider the context and history of the request where it is relevant.



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The request relates to questions that have already been answered through previous similar FOI requests, resulting in duplicate or repeated requests on the same or very similar subject matter. Responding to multiple iterations of the same topics places an unjustified and disproportionate burden on the force. There has been a pattern of frequent requests from the applicant across a number of FOI requests and email enquiries on similar subjects. This sustained volume of communication has become burdensome.

For the above reasons, SP have concluded that your request is vexatious within the terms of Section 14(1) of the Act and SP will not therefore be providing the information requested.

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 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



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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