

20 August 2026

FOI Ref 23253

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

Please provide the current force policy, instruction, or guidance that sets out the standards of appearance and dress for:

1. Police officers working in plain clothes, and
2. Police staff working in non-uniformed or plain-clothes roles

This includes (but is not limited to):

- Dress code or appearance standards specific to plain-clothes roles
- Any section within a *Uniform, Dress Code, Appearance, or Professional Standards* policy that applies to non-uniformed officers or staff
- Any locally approved guidance or annexes relating to plain-clothes attire

If the information is contained within a wider policy document, please provide the relevant section(s) rather than a summary.

Scope clarification (to avoid delay)

To assist, I am not requesting:

- Personal data,
- Tactical or operational detail relating to covert tactics,
- Security-sensitive material (e.g. surveillance methods).

Format

Please provide the information electronically (A Word document is preferred).

If the force does not hold a single standalone policy, please confirm which document(s) contain the relevant standards and supply those.

SP received your request on 11/08/2026 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.

Please provide the current force policy, instruction, or guidance that sets out the standards of appearance and dress for:

1. Police officers working in plain clothes, and
2. Police staff working in non-uniformed or plain-clothes roles

This includes (but is not limited to):

- Dress code or appearance standards specific to plain-clothes roles
- Any section within a *Uniform, Dress Code, Appearance, or Professional Standards* policy that applies to non-uniformed officers or staff
- Any locally approved guidance or annexes relating to plain-clothes attire

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If the force does not hold a single standalone policy, please confirm which document(s) contain the relevant standards and supply those.

- **Disclosed: Please see the attached file entitled, 'Uniform-Policy-Feb2026'**

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

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.



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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