

27 August 2026

FOI Ref 23278

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

Q1 What system or process do you use for classifying a missing person's ethnicity and nationality?

Q2 How is a missing person's ethnicity and nationality determined?

Q3 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and not found since 2022?

Financial or calendar months are acceptable

Q4 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and subsequently found since 2022?

Q5 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified nationality?

Q6 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified ethnicity?

SP received your request on 18/08/2026 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.**

- Q1 What system or process do you use for classifying a missing person's ethnicity and nationality?  
- **Disclosed. There is an extensive list of nationalities listed in the system, with an "other" field for any nationality not listed, and an associated free text box to record this. For ethnicity, there is a 7-point ethnic appearance box, and a 19-point ethnicity box with one being not stated.**
- Q2 How is a missing person's ethnicity and nationality determined?  
- **Disclosed, this is taken from the informant for the missing person at the point of call in order to populate the missing person record.**
- Q3 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and not found since 2022?  
Financial or calendar months are acceptable  
- **Disclosed, SP do not have any currently open or archived missing investigations of Vietnamese nationals since 2022, nor any missing investigations transferred to another force.**
- Q4 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and subsequently found since 2022?  
- **Disclosed, there has been one missing adult since 2022 recorded with a nationality of Vietnamese. Please note that nationality is not recorded for all missing person records.**
- Q5 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified nationality?  
- **Disclosed, 23,455.**
- Q6 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified ethnicity?  
- **Disclosed, 9007.**

This data has been provided to the best of the ability of SP, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems and software. Additional records 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 figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that data is 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. 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.

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](mailto: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.



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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