26 August 2026 **FOI Ref 23307**

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

1. Stolen property from residential properties
Please provide information relating to property reported as Stolen or Stolen & Recovered from residential properties (private dwellings).
Please provide the following information separately for:

- 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024
- 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025
- 1 January 2026 to the date this request is processed

a. The number of items recorded as stolen or stolen and recovered.
b. The total recorded value of those items.
c. A monthly breakdown of the number of items recorded as stolen or stolen and recovered, where readily available.
d. A monthly breakdown of the total recorded value of the items recorded as stolen or stolen and recovered, where readily available.

2. Optional additional information
If this information can be provided within the cost limits of the Act, please also provide details of the 10 highest-value items, where a value has been recorded, reported stolen from residential properties (private dwellings) between 1 January 2024 and the date this request is processed, including:
a. The estimated value of the item.
b. A brief description of the item.
c. The year in which the theft was recorded.
Format
I would appreciate it if the information could be provided in a digital format, preferably as a spreadsheet or CSV file.

SP received your request on 26/08/2026 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 12(1) where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the prescribed limit'.

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which SP can readily retrieve information from local police systems to answer this request. For the period requested, there have been in excess of 7,200 offences involving residential burglaries. The property stolen is likely to be recorded within the occurrence log of these offences and is therefore not always readily retrievable. To determine the amount of property stolen or recovered, the value of such property and the highest value items, the record for each residential burglary offence would require a manual review. To extract this data would therefore require a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 5-10 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to between 600 and 1200 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information Act by a considerable margin.

Advice and assistance

Section 16 of the Act places an obligation upon the Authority to provide advice and assistance, to comply with this obligation please see below.

Unfortunately, SP cannot suggest a way in which your request could be simplified or pared down to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold.

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 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