

12 February 2026

FOI Ref 22497

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

Is there any possible way of downsizing the request into an appropriate timeframe or cost? Maybe only 1 or 2 years instead of 6, or just info on offender/victim ethnicity as opposed to relationships/age groups/districts e.g.?

Would this be supplied as a dataset like the West Yorkshire Police one, or would all the suggestions (1-5, 7) be in separate tables? Would an ethnic breakdown table like the FBI also be available?

Whatever most detailed data you can provide, I'll gladly accept.

Original request

Please provide an anonymised spreadsheet (Excel or CSV) containing all recorded rape offences (including attempts) in Staffordshire from 1 January 2020 up to 31 December 2025.

For each offence, please include the following fields (or the closest equivalent held on your records management system):

1. Financial/crime year (or date of recording/offence)
2. Victim ethnicity (preferably using the 16+1 or 18+1 self-defined codes, or just White, Asian, Black, Mixed, Other if former not available)
3. Victim age band (e.g. "Under 18" / "18 or over" / actual age if banded differently)
4. Suspect/offender ethnicity (same coding as victim)
5. Suspect/offender age band (same as above)
6. Victim-offender relationship (e.g. Stranger, Partner, Ex-partner, Parent, Acquaintance, Family member, No suspect identified, etc.)
7. Police district / borough / local policing unit / Basic Command Unit

Essentially a chart that looks exactly like this, as presented to me when I submitted an FOI to West Yorkshire Police:

<https://i.ibb.co/Kx62fhpD/Screenshot-2025-12-15-at-23-54-53.png>

SP received your request on 06/02/2026 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 an anonymised spreadsheet (Excel or CSV) containing all recorded rape offences (including attempts) in Staffordshire from 1 January 2020 up to 31 December 2025.



- For each offence, please include the following fields (or the closest equivalent held on your records management system):
 - 1. Financial/crime year (or date of recording/offence)
 - 2. Victim ethnicity (preferably using the 16+1 or 18+1 self-defined codes, or just White, Asian, Black, Mixed, Other if former not available)
 - 3. Victim age band (e.g. "Under 18" / "18 or over" / actual age if banded differently)
 - 4. Suspect/offender ethnicity (same coding as victim)
 - 5. Suspect/offender age band (same as above)
 - 6. Victim-offender relationship (e.g. Stranger, Partner, Ex-partner, Parent, Acquaintance, Family member, No suspect identified, etc.) – **Question withdrawn.**
 - 7. Police district / borough / local policing unit / Basic Command Unit
- Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22497 Refinement of FOI 22485 Rape Offences Data'. Please see the below exemption.**

Please note that there are 900 offences that are still being investigated so with regard to these cases we are citing Section 30(1)(a)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Investigations conducted by Public Authorities.

Please be advised that the data has been provided for all rape and attempted rape offences in the time period requested along with victim ethnicity and age and suspect/offender ethnicity and age and LPT location (Local Policing Team). Please note that the victim and suspect/offender details are on separate rows due to the way it is retrieved off the system used to service this request and there may not always be a victim/suspect/offender in every case. Where there are blank fields this is where no data has been recorded.

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of the ability of SP, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software. Additional offences 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 data presented is accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that this has been 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.

Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the SP website although personal details are not included.

The following exemption has been applied:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for parts of this particular request.

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations

Section 30 is qualified and class based and, as such, we are required to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. SP is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

Balance test

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors we are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

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