

19 February 2026

FOI Ref 22543

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

I am seeking anonymised statistical data relating to road traffic collisions involving Range Rover vehicles (model years 2012–2021) where vehicle failure or defect was identified as a contributing factor, specifically relating to front suspension components.

To assist your search, I understand that collision investigations typically record data via STATS19 reporting and may include contributory factors or vehicle defect indicators.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for the period 1 January 2012 to present:

1. Collision Records

The total number of recorded road traffic collisions involving:

- Range Rover vehicles (including Range Rover L405 and Range Rover Sport L494 models, where model detail is available)

Where:

- A vehicle defect or mechanical failure was recorded as a contributory factor; and/or
- The investigating officer recorded a failure relating to suspension, steering, wheel assembly, or hub components.

2. Defect Classification (Where Available)

For the above collisions, please provide anonymised breakdowns of:

- The number where a front suspension component was identified as failed or defective
- The number where a steering or hub/knuckle component was identified
- Whether the defect was considered:
 - o A primary cause
 - o A contributory factor
 - o Or discovered during post-collision mechanical examination

3. Mechanical Examination Data

Where vehicles underwent forensic vehicle examination:

- The number of cases where a fractured or failed front suspension component was recorded
- Whether the failure was considered:
 - o Pre-collision mechanical failure
 - o Collision-induced damage
 - o Undetermined

4. Injury Severity (High-Level Only)

For relevant cases, please provide anonymised totals of:

- Fatal collisions
- Serious injury collisions
- Slight injury collisions

SP received your request on 17/02/2026 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 our systems to answer parts of this request. For the time period requested, there have been in excess of 800 RTC's (road traffic collisions) involving a Range Rover. In order to ascertain whether the vehicle involved had a 'defect or mechanical failure' that was a contributory factor, the record for each occurrence would require a manual review. Additionally, a further manual trawl would then also be required to establish whether the vehicle underwent forensic examination. 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 4 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 53 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the FOI 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.

To assist in refining your request, data can be provided for the number of RTC's involving a Range Rover in the time period requested including the RTC severity.

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.



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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