

28 January 2026

FOI Ref 22360

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information.

This request relates only to administrative offence codes, crime-recording classifications, and recording guidance.

No case-specific information, personal data, or investigative material is requested.

1. Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 1 Please provide the offence code(s), classification(s), or recording categories used by your force to record the following:

- a) Possession or custody of a prohibited type dog (Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, s1(3))
- b) Suspected prohibited type dog (prior to any confirmation)
- c) Confirmed prohibited type dog, if recorded separately
- d) Seizure of a dog believed to be a prohibited type (including seizures under s5 or PACE powers)
- e) Breeding, selling, exchanging, advertising, or gifting a prohibited type (s1(7)) If Section 1 matters are not recorded as notifiable crimes or are not recorded on your crime system, please state this clearly.

2. Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 3 Please provide the offence code(s) or classifications used to record:

- a) Dog dangerously out of control causing injury
- b) Dog dangerously out of control causing death
- c) Dog dangerously out of control with no injury

3. Destruction and exemption outcomes

Please provide any offence codes or outcome codes used to record:

- a) Destruction orders (s4)
- b) Destruction without owner present (s4B)
- c) Exemption orders (s4A)
- d) Voluntary surrender or disclaimer, if recorded separately

4. Internal or local codes

If your force uses internal or local offence codes that differ from Home Office classifications, please provide:

- the internal code
- its description
- and, where applicable, the Home Office offence category it maps to

5. “Suspected” vs “confirmed” classification Please confirm whether your recording system distinguishes between:

- suspected prohibited type,
- and confirmed prohibited type,
- or whether a single code is used for all Section 1 matters regardless of status.

6. Recording guidance

Please provide, or identify by title/reference, any written guidance or definitions used by crime-recording staff that specify:



- when Section 1 matters should be recorded
- which offence code should be applied
- how suspected versus confirmed prohibited type is recorded (if applicable)

SP received your request on 12/01/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP holds/does not hold the requested information.

1. Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 1 Please provide the offence code(s), classification(s), or recording categories used by your force to record the following:

- a) Possession or custody of a prohibited type dog (Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, s1(3)) – **Disclosed, DD91013.**
- b) Suspected prohibited type dog (prior to any confirmation) – **No information held.**
- c) Confirmed prohibited type dog, if recorded separately – **No information held.**
- d) Seizure of a dog believed to be a prohibited type (including seizures under s5 or PACE powers) – **No information held.**
- e) Breeding, selling, exchanging, advertising, or gifting a prohibited type (s1(7)) – **Disclosed,**
DD91001 - breed
DD91002 - breed from a dog
DD91003 - sell
DD91004 - exchange
DD91008 - make gift
DD91009 - offer to make gift
DD91031 - advertise for sale or exchange
DD91032 - advertise or expose for gift.

2. Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 3 Please provide the offence code(s) or classifications used to record:

- a) Dog dangerously out of control causing injury – **Disclosed, DD91034.**
- b) Dog dangerously out of control causing death – **Disclosed, DD91035.**
- c) Dog dangerously out of control with no injury – **Disclosed, DD91033.**

3. Destruction and exemption outcomes

Please provide any offence codes or outcome codes used to record:

- a) Destruction orders (s4) – **No information held.**
- b) Destruction without owner present (s4B) – **No information held.**

- c) Exemption orders (s4A) – **No information held.**
- d) Voluntary surrender or disclaimer, if recorded separately – **No information held.**

4. Internal or local codes

If your force uses internal or local offence codes that differ from Home Office classifications, please provide:

- - the internal code – **No information held.**
- - its description – **No information held.**
- - and, where applicable, the Home Office offence category it maps to – **No information held.**

5. “Suspected” vs “confirmed” classification Please confirm whether your recording system distinguishes between:

- - suspected prohibited type, – **No information held.**
- - and confirmed prohibited type, – **No information held.**
- - or whether a single code is used for all Section 1 matters regardless of status. – **No information held.**

6. Recording guidance

Please provide, or identify by title/reference, any written guidance or definitions used by crime-recording staff that specify:

- - when Section 1 matters should be recorded – **No information held.**
- - which offence code should be applied – **No information held.**
- - how suspected versus confirmed prohibited type is recorded (if applicable) – **No information held.**

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.

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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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