

30 January 2026

FOI Ref 22400

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following data for the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025.

1) Please provide the number of police officers and police staff, broken down separately for each allegation category below, who were subject to misconduct or disciplinary proceedings where the primary allegation related to:

- a) Misuse of force IT systems
- b) Accessing inappropriate or pornographic material while on duty
- c) Gaming, streaming, or social media use while on duty
- d) Other forms of time-wasting or non-police activity, please specify, while on duty

2) For each of the above allegation categories, please also provide the outcome of the misconduct process

Please present the data in an aggregated numerical format (for example, a table), rather than case-by-case detail. And dates requested relate to when the alleged misconduct supposedly occurred.

SP received your request on 16/01/2026 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.

- Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following data for the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025.
- 1) Please provide the number of police officers and police staff, broken down separately for each allegation category below, who were subject to misconduct or disciplinary proceedings where the primary allegation related to:
 - a) Misuse of force IT systems
 - b) Accessing inappropriate or pornographic material while on duty
 - c) Gaming, streaming, or social media use while on duty
 - d) Other forms of time-wasting or non-police activity, please specify, while on duty
- 2) For each of the above allegation categories, please also provide the outcome of the misconduct process
- Please present the data in an aggregated numerical format (for example, a table), rather than case-by-case detail. And dates requested relate to when the alleged misconduct supposedly occurred.
- Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22400 Misconduct for Time Wasting Data'. Please see the below exemption.

Please be advised that one case in 2023 and the 2025 case occurred whilst the individual was off duty.

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 cases 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 21(1) - Information reasonably accessible by other means.

Section 21 is an absolute, class-based exemption and as such there is no requirement to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure, nor is there a requirement to perform a Public Interest Test.

Advice and assistance

In order to comply with our obligations under Section 16 of the Act, the obligation to provide advice and assistance, please find below links to the information requested in relation to 2024.

- [foi-22165-misconduct-for-misuse-of-work-time.pdf](#)

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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