

10 July 2026

FOI Ref 23032

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

Priority: if the cost limit is engaged, please prioritise Parts 1 to 4, which should be answerable without manual case review, and apply section 16 advice and assistance to Parts 5 to 10.

Time period: please provide information for each calendar year from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2025, and for 1 January 2026 to the date of your search. Please provide figures in spreadsheet format where possible.

Part 1 — Recording and searchability

Please confirm whether your force holds any searchable flag, tag, marker, keyword, crime category, occurrence type or recording mechanism that would allow this type of conduct to be identified as:

- sexualised graffiti
- targeted sexual harassment
- publication of personal data in a public place
- phone-number graffiti
- public-place sexual harassment
- VAWG-related conduct
- stalking or harassment-related conduct
- repeat victimisation

If no such mechanism exists, please say so clearly.

Part 2 — Keyword counts

Please provide the number of recorded reports, incidents, crimes, logs or occurrences containing one or more of the following searchable terms, if held:

"graffiti", "toilet graffiti", "sexual graffiti", "sexualised graffiti", "public toilet", "cubicle", "written in toilet", "phone number", "mobile number", "prostitute", "slag", "slut", "whore", "busty", "sex", "call me", "for sex", "sexual harassment"

If your systems cannot search by these terms, please explain what search terms, flags, crime categories or recording methods are available for this type of conduct.

Part 3 — Policies, guidance and training

Please provide copies of any policy, guidance, training material, briefing note, crime-recording guidance or risk-assessment guidance held by your force concerning how officers or staff should respond to reports involving:

- sexualised graffiti
- graffiti or written material naming a person as sexually available
- graffiti or written material publishing a person's phone number or other personal data
- graffiti inviting strangers to contact a named person for sexual purposes



- sexual harassment in public or publicly accessible places
- anonymous third-party harassment through writing in toilets or public venues
- repeat reports of sexualised public-place harassment
- safeguarding or vulnerability concerns arising from this type of conduct
- links between this conduct and stalking, harassment, domestic abuse or VAWG

If no such document is held, please say so clearly.

Part 4 — Reviews, analysis and problem profiles

Please provide copies of any analysis, review, problem profile, equality impact assessment, VAWG assessment, local briefing, crime-pattern analysis or strategic document held from 1 January 2021 onwards concerning:

- sexualised graffiti
- graffiti targeting named women or girls
- use of public toilets or public venues to publish personal data
- harassment involving phone numbers written in public places
- anonymous public-place harassment of women or girls
- sexual harassment in supermarkets, service stations, cinemas, hospitals, schools, hospitality venues, transport hubs or similar publicly accessible locations

If no such document is held, please say so clearly.

Parts 5 to 10 — Recorded characteristics of the reports in Part 2

For Parts 5 to 10, please answer only to the extent the information is retrievable from existing coded or structured fields without manual review of individual case files. Where it is not so retrievable, please state that rather than incurring cost or refusing the request as a whole.

Part 5 — Publication of personal data

Of the reports identified, the number where the writing included, if held:

- a named person's telephone number
- a named person's address
- a named person's social media handle
- a named person's workplace or school
- a photograph or image of the person
- other identifying personal data

Part 6 — Victim sex / gender

- victim/complainant recorded as female
- recorded as male
- recorded as another gender category
- victim sex/gender not recorded or not retrievable

Part 7 — Age and vulnerability markers

- child victim
- adult victim
- victim recorded as vulnerable



- safeguarding concerns recorded
- repeat victimisation

Part 8 — Location type

- supermarket or retail premises
- service station
- cinema or leisure venue
- hospital, clinic or healthcare premises
- school, college or university
- pub, restaurant, hotel or hospitality venue
- public toilets
- workplace
- transport hub
- other publicly accessible premises
- private dwelling
- other / unknown

Part 9 — Crime or incident classification

- harassment
- stalking
- malicious communications
- public order
- criminal damage
- sexual offence
- hate crime
- domestic abuse
- violence against women and girls / VAWG
- safeguarding
- vulnerability
- repeat victimisation
- non-crime incident
- no further action / no crime recorded

Part 10 — Outcome

- resulted in a recorded crime
- resulted in an arrest
- resulted in a voluntary interview
- resulted in a charge or summons
- resulted in a caution, community resolution or other out-of-court disposal
- closed with no suspect identified
- closed with no further action
- where CCTV, venue records, cleaning logs or other third-party evidence was requested or reviewed, if recorded

SP received your request on 22/06/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:



SP holds some of the requested information.

Priority: if the cost limit is engaged, please prioritise Parts 1 to 4, which should be answerable without manual case review, and apply section 16 advice and assistance to Parts 5 to 10.

Time period: please provide information for each calendar year from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2025, and for 1 January 2026 to the date of your search. Please provide figures in spreadsheet format where possible.

Part 1 — Recording and searchability

Please confirm whether your force holds any searchable flag, tag, marker, keyword, crime category, occurrence type or recording mechanism that would allow this type of conduct to be identified as:

- sexualised graffiti
- targeted sexual harassment
- publication of personal data in a public place
- phone-number graffiti
- public-place sexual harassment
- VAWG-related conduct
- stalking or harassment-related conduct
- repeat victimisation

If no such mechanism exists, please say so clearly.

- Disclosed, yes there are flags on the crime recording database for VAWG and repeat victimisation. There are stats classification offences in relation to stalking and harassment.

Part 2 — Keyword counts

Please provide the number of recorded reports, incidents, crimes, logs or occurrences containing one or more of the following searchable terms, if held:

"graffiti", "toilet graffiti", "sexual graffiti", "sexualised graffiti", "public toilet", "cubicle", "written in toilet", "phone number", "mobile number", "prostitute", "slag", "slut", "whore", "busty", "sex", "call me", "for sex", "sexual harassment"

If your systems cannot search by these terms, please explain what search terms, flags, crime categories or recording methods are available for this type of conduct.

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Part 3 — Policies, guidance and training

Please provide copies of any policy, guidance, training material, briefing note, crime-recording guidance or risk-assessment guidance held by your force concerning how officers or staff should respond to reports involving:

- sexualised graffiti
- graffiti or written material naming a person as sexually available
- graffiti or written material publishing a person's phone number or other personal data
- graffiti inviting strangers to contact a named person for sexual purposes
- sexual harassment in public or publicly accessible places
- anonymous third-party harassment through writing in toilets or public venues
- repeat reports of sexualised public-place harassment
- safeguarding or vulnerability concerns arising from this type of conduct
- links between this conduct and stalking, harassment, domestic abuse or VAWG

If no such document is held, please say so clearly.

- Withheld, please see section 21 below. SP signposts officers to the College of Policing VAWG toolkit. This is the only policy/process/guide SP utilise in relation to the above.

Part 4 — Reviews, analysis and problem profiles

Please provide copies of any analysis, review, problem profile, equality impact assessment, VAWG assessment, local briefing, crime-pattern analysis or strategic document held from 1 January 2021 onwards concerning:

- sexualised graffiti
- graffiti targeting named women or girls
- use of public toilets or public venues to publish personal data
- harassment involving phone numbers written in public places
- anonymous public-place harassment of women or girls
- sexual harassment in supermarkets, service stations, cinemas, hospitals, schools, hospitality venues, transport hubs or similar publicly accessible locations

If no such document is held, please say so clearly.

- No information held. SP would record incidents under public place harassment which would cover points 5 and 6 above, however there is no associated analysis/review/briefing or product in relation to any of the points requested as a result.

Parts 5 to 10 — Recorded characteristics of the reports in Part 2

For Parts 5 to 10, please answer only to the extent the information is retrievable from existing coded or structured fields without manual review of individual case files. Where it is not so retrievable, please state that rather than incurring cost or refusing the request as a whole.

Part 5 — Publication of personal data

Of the reports identified, the number where the writing included, if held:

- a named person's telephone number
- a named person's address
- a named person's social media handle
- a named person's workplace or school
- a photograph or image of the person
- other identifying personal data

- This would exceed the time and cost threshold of the FOI Act and would attract a section 12 exemption.

Part 6 — Victim sex / gender

- victim/complainant recorded as female
- recorded as male
- recorded as another gender category
- victim sex/gender not recorded or not retrievable

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Part 7 — Age and vulnerability markers

- child victim
- adult victim
- victim recorded as vulnerable
- safeguarding concerns recorded



- repeat victimisation

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Part 8 — Location type

- supermarket or retail premises
- service station
- cinema or leisure venue
- hospital, clinic or healthcare premises
- school, college or university
- pub, restaurant, hotel or hospitality venue
- public toilets
- workplace
- transport hub
- other publicly accessible premises
- private dwelling
- other / unknown

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Part 9 — Crime or incident classification

- harassment
- stalking
- malicious communications
- public order
- criminal damage
- sexual offence
- hate crime
- domestic abuse
- violence against women and girls / VAWG
- safeguarding
- vulnerability
- repeat victimisation
- non-crime incident
- no further action / no crime recorded

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Part 10 — Outcome

- resulted in a recorded crime
- resulted in an arrest
- resulted in a voluntary interview
- resulted in a charge or summons
- resulted in a caution, community resolution or other out-of-court disposal
- closed with no suspect identified
- closed with no further action
- where CCTV, venue records, cleaning logs or other third-party evidence was requested or reviewed, if recorded

- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23032 Targeted Sexualised Graffiti Data'.

Please note;

- this data was obtained by completing a summary search for the terms "graffiti", "toilet graffiti", "sexual graffiti", "sexualised graffiti", "public toilet", "cubicle", "written in toilet", "phone number", "mobile number", "prostitute", "slag", "slut", "whore", "busty", "sex", "call me", "for sex", "sexual

harassment". The accuracy and reliability of these searches cannot be guaranteed as only the MO / summary field of the report is searched. If this term is mentioned elsewhere (i.e. within the call log, crime report, statements etc) these will not be returned in the results. Additionally, if the term is misspelt within the MO / summary field, this will not be returned. To provide accurate results would require manually interrogating each crime within the specified timeframe to establish its relevance to your request.

- that the data for questions 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been provided where these have been recorded.
- these figures have 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 figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that data is 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.

As a consequence, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, so as to not misrepresent the whole or any part of the data disclosed.

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.

- [Violence against women and girls toolkit | College of Policing](#)

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.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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