

9 July 2026

FOI Ref 23089

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information relating to the use of psychics or similar practitioners by your force during the period from 1 January 2021 to the date this request is processed (or the most recent five-year period for which records are available).

For the purposes of this request, "psychic" includes any individual or organisation engaged, consulted, commissioned, contracted, or otherwise utilised in a professional capacity who was described as, or provided services as, a:

- * Medium
- * Remote Viewer
- * Remote Perceiver
- * Clairvoyant
- * Intuitive
- * Mystic
- * Channeler
- * Oracle
- * Seer
- * Fortune Teller

Please provide:

- A.
- * The number of occasions on which the force utilised, consulted, engaged, commissioned, contracted, or otherwise received assistance from any person fitting the above descriptions.
 - * A yearly breakdown of these occasions.
 - * For each occasion, where recorded:
 - o The practitioner type or how the individual was described.
 - o Whether the engagement related to a missing person investigation, homicide investigation, or other type of inquiry.
 - o Whether the practitioner was paid or acted voluntarily.
 - * The total amount paid by the force in relation to such services during the period, broken down by year where possible.
 - * Copies of any force policies, guidance, standard operating procedures, or internal documents concerning the use of psychics or similar practitioners in investigations.

- B
- * How many times has the force received information, intelligence, correspondence, telephone calls or other communications from individuals identifying themselves as psychics, mediums, clairvoyants, remote viewers or similar practitioners in connection with a criminal investigation, missing person enquiry or unidentified remains investigation during the last five years?"

- * Where feasible and/or appropriate to data protection, please provide the names of persons or companies who have made approaches.



If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please provide any information that can be supplied within the limit and advise how the request may be refined.

If the information is held under a different description than those listed above, please include any recorded instances that your force considers to fall within the spirit of this request.

I look forward to your response within the statutory time limit.

SP received your request on 06/07/2026 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.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information relating to the use of psychics or similar practitioners by your force during the period from 1 January 2021 to the date this request is processed (or the most recent five-year period for which records are available).

For the purposes of this request, "psychic" includes any individual or organisation engaged, consulted, commissioned, contracted, or otherwise utilised in a professional capacity who was described as, or provided services as, a:

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 - o The practitioner type or how the individual was described.
 - o Whether the engagement related to a missing person investigation, homicide investigation, or other type of inquiry.
 - o Whether the practitioner was paid or acted voluntarily.
 - * The total amount paid by the force in relation to such services during the period, broken down by year where possible.
 - * Copies of any force policies, guidance, standard operating procedures, or internal documents concerning the use of psychics or similar practitioners in investigations.
- **Disclosed: No information held.**



B

* How many times has the force received information, intelligence, correspondence, telephone calls or other communications from individuals identifying themselves as psychics, mediums, clairvoyants, remote viewers or similar practitioners in connection with a criminal investigation, missing person enquiry or unidentified remains investigation during the last five years?"

- **Disclosed: 1. This being in 2022 where a Clairvoyant contacted SP in relation to a homicide enquiry.**

* Where feasible and/or appropriate to data protection, please provide the names of persons or companies who have made approaches.

- **Withheld: Please see the below exemption.**

If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please provide any information that can be supplied within the limit and advise how the request may be refined.

If the information is held under a different description than those listed above, please include any recorded instances that your force considers to fall within the spirit of this request.

I look forward to your response within the statutory time limit.

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 this request.

- **Section 40(2) Personal Information**

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

To release personal or third-party information held by SP, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant.

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.

Unfortunately, SP is unable to provide any assistance in relation to this request.

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