

9 June 2026

FOI Ref 22972

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

- 1) The total number of Disclosure Requests made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme's 'Right to Ask' during the below periods.
- 2) The total number of disclosures made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme's 'Right to Ask' during the below periods.
- 3) The total number of disclosures made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme's Right to Ask that were made within the 28 day limit during the periods below.
- 4) The total number of 'Right to Know' applications made under the Domestic Disclosure Scheme during the below periods.
- 5) The total number of 'Right to Know' disclosures made during the below periods

The periods referenced are:

01/01/2018 up to and including 31/12/2018
01/01/2019 up to and including 31/12/2019
01/01/2020 up to and including 31/12/2020
01/01/2021 up to and including 31/12/2021
01/01/2022 up to and including 31/12/2022
01/01/2023 up to and including 31/12/2023
01/01/2024 up to and including 31/12/2024
01/01/2025 up to and including 31/12/2025

- 6) The projected number of Disclosure requests under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme estimated for the period 01/01/2026 up to and including 31/12/2026 (the year of 2026).

SP received your request on 08/06/2026 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 this request. In order to answer question 3, for the time periods requested, it would involve the manual review of over 1,100 Right to Ask Disclosure records. 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 3 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to over 55 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information 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.

If question 3 was withdrawn and your request refined, SP would be able to provide the following per calendar year between 01/01/2018 and 31/12/2025:

- 1) The total number of Disclosure Requests made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme's 'Right to Ask'.
- 2) The total number of disclosures made under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme's 'Right to Ask'.
- 3) The total number of 'Right to Know' applications made under the Domestic Disclosure Scheme.
- 4) The total number of 'Right to Know' disclosures made.

Please be advised that SP do not hold a projected disclosure request figure for 2026 as per question 6 of your request.

Alternatively, it would be possible to provide all of the data requested if the time period was reduced to approximately 3 years.

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.

2. How to Request a Review



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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