

23 June 2026

FOI Ref 23005

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

I am requesting access to the formal case closure reports, internal review summaries, or policy decision logs held by the Major Crime Review Team regarding the 2020 decision to terminate the reopened investigation into the 2002 murder of Kevin Nunes.

Context:

In 2020, it was publicly disclosed that the reopened investigation into the homicide of Kevin Nunes had concluded without charges. The Crown Prosecution Service formally declined to bring an indictment, citing that historic investigative failings and witness-handling issues from the original 2002 investigation meant that any contemporary prosecution would constitute an "abuse of the legal process."

Specific Information Requested:

1. The formal internal case closure report, briefing note, or decision log generated by Staffordshire Police in 2019 or 2020 detailing the final administrative rationale for halting the active murder investigation.
2. Records or internal correspondence held within this closure file detailing the specific historic police handling failures from the original investigation that met the legal threshold for an "Abuse of Process," thereby preventing a criminal indictment from being brought against the identified chief suspect.

SP received your request on 12/06/2026 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.

1. The formal internal case closure report, briefing note, or decision log generated by Staffordshire Police in 2019 or 2020 detailing the final administrative rationale for halting the active murder investigation. – **Withheld.**
2. Records or internal correspondence held within this closure file detailing the specific historic police handling failures from the original investigation that met the legal threshold for an "Abuse of Process," thereby preventing a criminal indictment from being brought against the identified chief suspect. – **Withheld.**

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 particular request.

- Section 30(1)(a)(b) – Criminal Investigations

Section 30 is qualified and class based and, as such, we are required to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the information would improve the public's knowledge and understanding of the investigatory process and, as all police investigations are publicly funded, would show how public funds are being spent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 30(1)(a)(b)

Disclosure of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are carried out in the future. SP is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities SP serves. Any release of information relating to ongoing investigations could prejudice and undermine those investigations. The prevention and detection of such matters could therefore be hindered and therefore risk interference with evidence, which could have detrimental impact on future investigations. In addition, the right to a fair trial could be undermined.

Balance test

Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant. Having considered the public interest factors SP are required to determine whether on balance the factors favouring disclosure outweigh those which are against disclosure. It is SP's view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

Please be advised that 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

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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, taking into account 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