

6 March 2026

FOI Ref 22612

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

I would like to request the following information under the freedom of information Act 2000:

1. How many recorded offences of sexual assault has there been on a male by a Staffordshire police officer from September 30th, 2025, to December 30th, 2025?
2. How many recorded offences of sexual assault has there been on a female by a Staffordshire police officer from September 30th, 2025, to December 30th, 2025?
3. Please can you provide the outcome for each of these recorded offences, specifically making each outcome distinctly clear for male and female victims.

SP received your request on 04/03/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP can neither confirm nor deny whether information relevant to this request is held, as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemptions:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this request.

- Section 30(3) – Criminal Investigations
SP are required to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring confirming or denying information is held – Section 30(3)

Confirming or denying information is held in respect of investigations into officers would improve the public's confidence in the work of the police to apprehend offenders and reassure them that procedures to tackle crime were robust and effective.

Factors favouring not confirming or denying information is held – Section 30(3)

Confirmation or denial of the existence of the requested information would prejudice how investigations are conducted in the future. SP is charged with enforcing the law, preventing, and detecting crime and protecting the communities SP serve. Any confirmation or denial that information is held, and 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 our view that the factors favouring disclosure do not outweigh those which favour non-disclosure.

No inference can be taken from this refusal that a criminal investigation is or is not currently taking place.

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
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.



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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