

16 March 2026

FOI Ref 22655

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

1) Please state for the calendar year 2025 how many of the following crimes were alleged to have occurred and were recorded by your force as happening in a) Sports Direct and b) JD Sports shops:

Assault offences to include all assault offences

5D - Assault with intent to cause serious harm 8N - Assault with injury 8P - Racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury 105A - Assault without injury 105B - Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury

Please note I am only interested in assaults which involved members of the public assaulting employees of Sports Direct or JD Sports within store premises.

The data should be broken down by whether the assault happened in Sports Direct or JD Sports.

In addition, please provide me with a verbatim copy of the "investigation summary field" and/or the modus operandi (MO) for the ten most recent cases.

SP received your request on 12/03/2026 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) Please state for the calendar year 2025 how many of the following crimes were alleged to have occurred and were recorded by your force as happening in a) Sports Direct and b) JD Sports shops:
Assault offences to include all assault offences
5D - Assault with intent to cause serious harm 8N - Assault with injury 8P - Racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury 105A - Assault without injury 105B - Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury
Please note I am only interested in assaults which involved members of the public assaulting employees of Sports Direct or JD Sports within store premises.
The data should be broken down by whether the assault happened in Sports Direct or JD Sports.
– **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22655 Assaults in JD Sports and Sports Direct.xlsx'.**
- In addition, please provide me with a verbatim copy of the "investigation summary field" and/or the modus operandi (MO) for the ten most recent cases. – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22655 Assaults in JD Sports and Sports Direct.xlsx'.**



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 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.

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



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

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