



25 March 2026

FOI Ref 22675

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

From all arrests in the calendar year 2024 recorded by Staffordshire Police, where any of the following offences is recorded on the custody record (whether as the main or a secondary offence):

- * Section 4A Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 5 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 18 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 19 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 20 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 21 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 22 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 23 Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29B Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29C Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29D Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29E Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29F Public Order Act 1986
- * Section 29G Public Order Act 1986

please select up to 40 arrests using the following method:

- Order all of the eligible arrests in 2024 by date, starting with the first that occurred in 2024
- Pick out every third arrest, starting with the first of the year (i.e. arrest one, arrest four, arrest seven, arrest 10 etc.)
- Do this until you have reached the bottom of the list, or selected 40 arrests, or selected the maximum number of arrests allowed within the cost limit of this request
- If you reach the bottom of the list before exceeding 40 arrests/the cost limit, please return to the top of the list and repeat this process, starting with the second arrest of the year (i.e. arrest two, arrest five, arrest eight, arrest 11 etc.)
- If you reach the bottom of the list again before exceeding 40 arrests/the cost limit, please return to the top of the list and repeat this process, starting with the third arrest of the year (i.e. arrest three, arrest six, arrest nine, arrest 12 etc.)

If, for any reason, this method is not practicable, please simply select the first 40 eligible arrests by date in 2024. If you do this, please state that you have.

For each arrest in the sample, please provide:

1. An anonymised reference (e.g. A1, A2, A3 etc.)
2. The date of the arrest (month and year only, e.g. May 2024)



3. Which of the above offences is recorded (any of the sections of the Public Order Act listed above)
4. Any other offences that are recorded
5. The existing short "offence summary" / "crime summary" / "custody record description" / "modus operandi (MO)" text (or equivalent field) that describes the conduct

If possible, please provide the data as a .xlsx file.

SP received your request on 16/03/2026 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.

- From all arrests in the calendar year 2024 recorded by Staffordshire Police,
- where any of the following offences is recorded on the custody record (whether as the main or a secondary offence):
 - * Section 4A Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 5 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 18 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 19 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 20 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 21 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 22 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 23 Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29B Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29C Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29D Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29E Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29F Public Order Act 1986
 - * Section 29G Public Order Act 1986
- please select up to 40 arrests using the following method:
 - Order all of the eligible arrests in 2024 by date, starting with the first that occurred in 2024
 - Pick out every third arrest, starting with the first of the year (i.e. arrest one, arrest four, arrest seven, arrest 10 etc.)
 - Do this until you have reached the bottom of the list, or selected 40 arrests, or selected the maximum number of arrests allowed within the cost limit of this request
 - If you reach the bottom of the list before exceeding 40 arrests/the cost limit, please return to the top of the list and repeat this process, starting with the second arrest of the year (i.e. arrest two, arrest five, arrest eight, arrest 11 etc.)
 - If you reach the bottom of the list again before exceeding 40 arrests/the cost limit, please return to the top of the list and repeat this process, starting with the third arrest of the year (i.e. arrest three, arrest six, arrest nine, arrest 12 etc.)
- If, for any reason, this method is not practicable, please simply select the first 40 eligible arrests by date in 2024. If you do this, please state that you have.



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- For each arrest in the sample, please provide:
 1. An anonymised reference (e.g. A1, A2, A3 etc.)
 2. The date of the arrest (month and year only, e.g. May 2024)
 3. Which of the above offences is recorded (any of the sections of the Public Order Act listed above)
 4. Any other offences that are recorded
 5. The existing short "offence summary" / "crime summary" / "custody record description" / "modus operandi (MO)" text (or equivalent field) that describes the conduct
- If possible, please provide the data as a .xlsx file.
- **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22675 Public Order Arrests Data'.**

Please be advised that the data has been chosen by using the method requested above by the applicant to select 40 random arrests.

Please note that this data has been provided to the best of the ability of SP, subject to the limitation of current recording protocols and systems/software. Additional arrests may have been recorded during these timescales but are awaiting finalisation and input onto these systems and would not be present within this dataset.

Every effort is made to ensure that the data presented is accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that this has been extracted from multiple sources, developed for specific policing purposes, for which data extraction methods have not been specifically designed to directly correlate with the terminology of this request. Therefore, the data presented is subject to the inaccuracies and idiosyncrasies inherent in any large-scale recording system.

Consequently, care should be taken in the interpretation and presentation of this data, to not misrepresent the whole or any part of the data disclosed.

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 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