



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

8 May 2026

FOI Ref 22752

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

Please provide this information for the most recent three years available:

The number of offences recorded for failing to comply with a red traffic light.

The number of cases where motorists stated that they crossed a red light in order to allow an emergency vehicle to pass.

Of those identified in Question 2:

The number where enforcement action was cancelled or discontinued

The number where enforcement action proceeded

The number resulting in prosecution or penalty

Please provide any policies, guidance, or internal documents relating to motorists crossing a red light to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Please provide any guidance issued to:

Officers

Camera enforcement teams

Central Ticket Offices

Staff reviewing notices

Please confirm whether your force has any public guidance relating to motorists crossing a red light to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Please provide details of any cases where motorists successfully challenged enforcement on the basis of allowing an emergency vehicle to pass.

SP received your request on 10/04/2026 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:

The request relates to offences recorded for failing to comply to a traffic signal. This offence also relates to several other types of traffic signals. Thus, the requested detail of the offence is recorded as part of a broader subset on a system which would require all the individual records to be reviewed to ascertain the information sought. For the 3-year period requested, there are more than 5000 offences. From dip sampling it is estimated that it would take at least 3 minutes to manually review each record. It would therefore take over 250 hours to achieve this task, which would exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI Act.

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.

Unfortunately, SP cannot suggest a way in which your request could be simplified or pared down to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold.

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.

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