

19 May 2026

FOI Ref 22777

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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information from your constabulary relating to speeding offences recorded in 20mph and 30mph speed limit areas within your force area.

For the purposes of this request, I am referring to offences where a driver exceeded the posted speed limit on a public road in either a 20mph or 30mph limit.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information.

Q1. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits in each of the following calendar years: 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Q2. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 30mph limits in each of the following calendar years: 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Q3. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits between 1 January 2026 and 31 March 2026.

Q4. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 30mph limits between 1 January 2026 and 31 March 2026.

Q5. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the highest recorded speed detected in a 20mph limit, and separately in a 30mph limit, during the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2026.

Q6. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the top three roads or locations within your force area with the highest number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits, and separately in 30mph limits, across the full period requested.

Q7. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the total number of offences in 20mph limits, and separately in 30mph limits, by outcome, including:

- a. Fixed Penalty Notices
- b. Speed awareness courses
- c. Prosecutions or court summons

If any part of this request would exceed the cost limit under Section 12, please let me know how the request could be refined so that it can be completed within the limit.

SP received your request on 17/04/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP holds some of the requested information.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information from your constabulary relating to speeding offences recorded in 20mph and 30mph speed limit areas within your force area.

For the purposes of this request, I am referring to offences where a driver exceeded the posted speed limit on a public road in either a 20mph or 30mph limit.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information.

Q1. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits in each of the following calendar years: 2023, 2024 and 2025. - **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

Q2. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 30mph limits in each of the following calendar years: 2023, 2024 and 2025. - **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

Q3. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits between 1 January 2026 and 31 March 2026. - **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

Q4. The total number of speeding offences recorded in 30mph limits between 1 January 2026 and 31 March 2026. - **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

Q5. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the highest recorded speed detected in a 20mph limit, and separately in a 30mph limit, during the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2026. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

Q6. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the top three roads or locations within your force area with the highest number of speeding offences recorded in 20mph limits, and separately in 30mph limits, across the full period requested. – **Partially disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'. Please be advised this data pertains to mobile speed cameras only, and fixed speed cameras have been withheld, please see the below applied exemption.**

Q7. Where held in a readily retrievable format, the total number of offences in 20mph limits, and separately in 30mph limits, by outcome, including:

- a. Fixed Penalty Notices
- b. Speed awareness courses
- c. Prosecutions or court summons

- **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 22777 Speeding Offences Data'.**

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 offences 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.

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 particular request.

- Section 31 (1) (a) (b) - Law Enforcement.

Information is exempt from disclosure under section 31(1)(a)(b) where the release of Information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and/or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. This exemption is qualified and prejudice-based and, as such, we are required to evidence the harm in disclosure and apply the public interest test.

Harm

Safety cameras are not always active, and the police rely on the perception of drivers that camera housings could be active and would therefore adjust their speed so as not to contract a fine. To confirm which specific cameras were responsible for the detection and enforcement of speeding offences would diminish the effectiveness of safety cameras in the Staffordshire Police area and undermine police enforcement. To release the requested information could have a detrimental impact on how motorists drive, which would lead to an increase in offending and road traffic collisions; therefore, placing the public at a greater risk of harm.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure under Section 31(1)(a)(b)

The public are entitled to know how public funds are spent and how the use of speed cameras can have an effect on drivers using the road. Disclosure of the information would show that Staffordshire Police supports transparency and accountability, also showing that appropriate measures are being taken to improve public safety and reduce offending.

Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 31(1)(a)(b)

Any release of information under the FOI Act is a disclosure to the world, not just to an individual applicant. Safety cameras are used to protect the community that we serve and deter motorists from exceeding the speed limit. Disclosure would allow the public to take action to frustrate the operational



tactics adopted to enforce road traffic law and this would undermine the police's key function of preventing and detecting crime. Disclosure may also encourage motorists to fail to adhere to the speed limit and would put lives at risk. Disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice substantially the apprehension or prosecution of offenders and interfere with law enforcement. Therefore, this could lead to an increase in road traffic collisions.

Balance Test

After considering the factors mentioned above, it has been determined that disclosure of the requested information would not be in the public interest. It is considered that the benefit that would result from the information being disclosed is outweighed by the benefits of withholding the requested information. Please be advised that all Freedom of Information request responses are published on the Staffordshire Police 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.



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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