

Our Ref: FOI 22891
Your Ref: FOI 22822
Date: 20 May 2026

Internal Review

Re: Request for internal review of response to application for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, original request first notified to Staffordshire Police (SP) on 01/05/2026.

SP refer to the above request which was expressed in the following terms:

Please provide the following anonymized information for the period of 1 October 2025 to 31 January 2026:

1. The number of incidents recorded by Staffordshire Police where officers attended:
 - Cardigan House, Cardigan Place, Hednesford, WS12 1AQ; and/or
 - Cardigan Place, Hednesford (where the street itself is the recorded location).
2. A breakdown of these incidents by type or category (e.g., anti-social behavior, suspected drug use, fire alarm activation, or nuisance).
3. The specific dates of attendance (day/month/year) for each incident.

I am seeking this information to understand the frequency and nature of incidents at this location—specifically concerning repeated anti-social behavior and cannabis use in communal areas—and am not requesting any personal data that would identify suspects, witnesses, or callers.

If any part of this request exceeds the statutory cost limit, please advise me on how I might narrow the scope of my inquiry.

Further to the above, SP also note the following comments made within your request for Internal Review.

Thank you for your response dated 5 May 2026 to my Freedom of Information request (FOI 22822) regarding incident statistics for Cardigan House, Cardigan Place, Hednesford, WS12 1AQ.

I note that your response directed me to publicly available neighbourhood crime data. However, I do not believe the specific information I requested is available through that portal.

Specifically:

1. The public data provides only aggregated neighbourhood-level crime categories. It does not include incident-level detail, 101 call logs, or records of specific police attendance at a particular address or building.

2. My request was for incidents at Cardigan House and Cardigan Place specifically — not generic crime statistics for the wider Hednesford neighbourhood.

The public data does not distinguish between types of drug offence, does not identify whether incidents involved cannabis specifically, and does not include anti-social behaviour call-outs, fire alarm activations, or nuisance reports at a specific address.

For the s.21 exemption to apply, the specific information requested must be reasonably accessible to the applicant through other means (FOIA 2000, s.21(1)). Neighbourhood-level aggregated data does not meet that threshold for a request about incident-level records at a named address.

I would therefore ask that you reconsider my original request. For ease of reference, I was seeking:

- The number of incidents recorded by Staffordshire Police where officers attended Cardigan House, Cardigan Place, Hednesford, WS12 1AQ and/or Cardigan Place itself, between 1 October 2025 and 31 January 2026
- A breakdown by type or category (anti-social behaviour, suspected drug use, fire alarm activation, nuisance)
- The specific dates of attendance for each incident

I am content with anonymised or redacted responses and am not requesting any personal data identifying suspects, witnesses, or callers

If you maintain that the s.21 exemption applies, I would ask for a formal refusal notice under s.17 FOIA 2000 setting out the exemption relied upon, so that I may consider a referral to the Information Commissioner.

SP Response

Staffordshire Police have conducted an internal review and note that in your original response neither confirm nor deny S40(5) exemption was cited not S21. The crime map link was given in the advice and assistance section to assist with providing information that may be of use. To disclose the specific dates of attendance at a specific location could potentially identify an individual. However, upon review SP would like to issue a revised response. See below:

1. The number of incidents recorded by Staffordshire Police where officers attended:
 - Cardigan House, Cardigan Place, Hednesford, WS12 1AQ; and/or



- Cardigan Place, Hednesford (where the street itself is the recorded location). – **Disclosed please see the accompanying spreadsheet entitled ‘ FOI 22891 Internal Review of FOI 22822 Incident Statistics Data’**

2. A breakdown of these incidents by type or category (e.g., anti-social behavior, suspected drug use, fire alarm activation, or nuisance). **Disclosed please see accompanying spreadsheet entitled ‘FOI 22891 Internal Review of FOI 22822 Incident Statistics Data’**

3. The specific dates of attendance (day/month/year) for each incident. **Withheld - S40 see below. To disclose the specific dates of attendance at a specific location could potentially identify an individual. S40(5) exemption upheld.**

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(5) Personal Information

Section 40(5) 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 that may be 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 FOI requests and response letters are published on the Staffordshire Police website although personal details are not included

If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Information Access Team Management

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