

1 October 2026

FOI Ref 23447

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

Following your guidance under S.16, I would like to refine my request to questions 1, 2, 4 and 5 in full for the financial years 2021/22 to 2025/26 (as in my original FOI.) I would also be grateful if you could provide the data for question 6 for the number of complainants who lodged five or more complaints in the whole-time frame.

Original request

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, concerning data held by your Professional Standards Department. I do not seek any information about identifiable individuals; counts and distributions only are requested.

For financial years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 (and, if within the cost limit, 2021-22 and 2022-23 also — see the note below), broken down by year:

1. The number of misconduct and gross misconduct investigations concluded, split by severity assessment.
2. The duration of those investigations, from the date of severity assessment to the date of conclusion, expressed as a banded distribution: 0–6 months, over 6 and up to 12 months, over 12 and up to 24 months, over 24 months. Please provide the bands rather than, or in addition to, an average — the distribution is the substance of this item.
3. The same banded distribution for investigations that were live and not concluded at the end of each financial year, measuring the age of the investigation at that date from the date of severity assessment (or the nearest equivalent date held).
4. The number and proportion of concluded investigations resulting in a finding of no case to answer, and the number resulting in each other outcome category held.
5. The number of officers suspended, and the duration of suspensions as a banded distribution using the same bands as item 2.
6. The number of complainants who lodged five or more complaints within any 24-month period, and the proportion of all complaints recorded that those complainants accounted for. Counts only are sought; no information about the identity or characteristics of any complainant is requested.

The core of this request is the three most recent financial years, 2023-24 to 2025-26. If the two earlier years, 2021-22 and 2022-23, can also be included within the appropriate cost limit, please include them; if they cannot, please supply the three core years — the earlier years are not a condition of this request and should not be treated as grounds for refusing it. Where a change of records system limits what is held for any year, please supply the years that are available and state which years are affected.

SP received your request on 30/09/2026 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.

- Following your guidance under S.16, I would like to refine my request to questions 1, 2, 4 and 5 in full for the financial years 2021/22 to 2025/26 (as in my original FOI.) I would also be grateful if you could provide the data for question 6 for the number of complainants who lodged five or more complaints in the whole-time frame.
- Original request
- This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, concerning data held by your Professional Standards Department. I do not seek any information about identifiable individuals; counts and distributions only are requested.
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 - 1. The number of misconduct and gross misconduct investigations concluded, split by severity assessment.
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 - 3. The same banded distribution for investigations that were live and not concluded at the end of each financial year, measuring the age of the investigation at that date from the date of severity assessment (or the nearest equivalent date held). – **Question withdrawn.**
 - 4. The number and proportion of concluded investigations resulting in a finding of no case to answer, and the number resulting in each other outcome category held.
 - 5. The number of officers suspended, and the duration of suspensions as a banded distribution using the same bands as item 2.
 - 6. The number of complainants who lodged five or more complaints within any 24-month period, and the proportion of all complaints recorded that those complainants accounted for. Counts only are sought; no information about the identity or characteristics of any complainant is requested.
- **- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23447 Refinement of FOI 23357 Gross Misconduct Investigations Data'.**

Please note that with regards to questions 1 and 2 the data has been provided per investigation. With regards to questions 4 and 5, the data has been provided per individual as there may be more than one person being investigated per case. SP does not hold proportions as recorded information.

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

Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that data is 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.

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