

6 October 2026

FOI Ref 23448

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

I'm researching crimes related to spiking and, under the Freedom of Information Act, would be grateful if you could provide the disclosure requested. I understand that the offences listed are those most likely to be associated with acts of spiking, but please advise if there are others I may be unaware of and amend the list accordingly, if at all possible.

Please note I am not seeking identifiable personal information and am happy for any necessary data to be anonymised. I would also be grateful if you could consider, where keyword searches are mentioned, that I am asking for a count of records including the terms listed and not a manual review of each record. I understand the kind of caveats that apply to keyword searches and any analysis of disclosure would take into account the limitations of a keyword search in this context.

If you feel this request breaches the cost and time limits as it stands, please advise me as to how best to refine my questions to achieve the disclosure I hope to receive.

I'd be grateful if you could provide the force's response in an xlsx file.

I'd like to know:

1. Broken down for each financial year and offence between and including April 1 2022 and September 2026, please provide the following for the offences (a) 'Endangering life or causing harm by administering poison'; (b) 'Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy'; (c) 'Administering substance with intent to stupefy or overpower to engage in sexual activity'; (d) 'Administering a substance with intent to commit a sexual offence':

- a. The total number of incidents recorded
- b. The total number of crimes recorded, broken down by gender and age band of victim (where recorded) and recorded offence location (where the location is held in a structured field)
- c. If your system permits keyword searching of MO or summary fields, please provide the following, or advise if such searches cannot be conducted without manual review: the number of crimes with the words 'spiked', 'spike' or 'spiking' in the MO summary
- d. The number of crimes where the MO summary contains 'needle', 'vape', 'drink', 'drug' or 'drugged', broken down by each key word
- e. The number of crime outcomes recorded, broken down by outcome, gender and age band of suspect (where recorded)

2. If it is possible within the cost and time limits of the FOI Act, please also provide an anonymised summary of the most recent two recorded crimes for each of the offence categories listed in previous questions
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.



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 - e. The number of crime outcomes recorded, broken down by outcome, gender and age band of suspect (where recorded)
 - 2. If it is possible within the cost and time limits of the FOI Act, please also provide an anonymised summary of the most recent two recorded crimes for each of the offence categories listed in previous questions
- Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled 'FOI 23448 Spiking Data'.**

Please note that each offence may have more than one victim or suspect recorded. The data for question 2 has been anonymised.

Please note: This data was obtained by completing a summary search for the terms "spiked", "spike", "spiking", "needle", "vape", "drink", "drug" or "drugged". The accuracy and reliability of these searches cannot be guaranteed as only the MO / summary field of the report is searched. If this term is mentioned elsewhere (i.e. within the call log, crime report, statements etc) these will not be returned in the results. Additionally, if the term is misspelt within the MO / summary field, this will not be returned. To provide accurate results would require manually interrogating each crime within the specified timeframe to establish its relevance to your request.

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 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 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

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/>



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team

An outstanding local police service that cares

Confident Communities Exceptional Workforce Productive Partnerships Outstanding Organisation