

8 October 2026

FOI Ref 23460

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

Please detail the number of digital devices (e.g. mobile phones, computers, storage devices) awaiting forensic examination by your force as of 30th September 2026, including how many of these devices have been waiting more than 6 months and more than 12 months.

Please also provide data from the previous year as of 30th September 2025, if held.

E.g.

30th September 2026

- * 1,350 devices awaiting examination
- * 420 devices waiting over 6 months
- * 160 devices waiting over 12 months

30th September 2025

- * 1,120 devices waiting examination
- * 310 devices waiting over 6 months
- * 95 devices waiting over 12 months

Please advise how to refine my request if any of this isn't possible.

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 some of the requested information.

- Please detail the number of digital devices (e.g. mobile phones, computers, storage devices) awaiting forensic examination by your force as of 30th September 2026, including how many of these devices have been waiting more than 6 months and more than 12 months.
- Please also provide data from the previous year as of 30th September 2025, if held.
- E.g.
- 30th September 2026
 - * 1,350 devices awaiting examination
 - * 420 devices waiting over 6 months
 - * 160 devices waiting over 12 months
- 30th September 2025
 - * 1,120 devices waiting examination
 - * 310 devices waiting over 6 months



* 95 devices waiting over 12 months

- **Partially disclosed,**

30th September 2026

- **602 devices awaiting examination**
- **183 devices waiting over 6 months**
- **39 devices waiting over 12 months**

30th September 2025

- **1019 devices waiting examination**
- **Devices waiting over 6 months – No information held.**
- **Devices waiting over 12 months – No information held.**

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.

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.



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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

An outstanding local police service that cares

Confident Communities Exceptional Workforce Productive Partnerships Outstanding Organisation