

5 October 2026

FOI Ref 23468

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

In light of your advice, I'd like to restrict my request to the past 12-month period.

Original request

I am writing to request information from your force on spiking incidents.

Please provide me with the following information:

1. The number of spiking-related offences recorded by your force in the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026. For 2026, please provide me with data up to September (1 January 2026 to 1 September 2026), or if data is not held up to 1 September, the most recent available data. Please break this data down by year and, if possible, by month.
2. For each year, please also provide me a summary of the outcome of each offence (e.g., in 2026, 100 offences led to a charge, 200 led to a caution, etc.).
3. If this falls within the time/cost limit, please provide me with information on the nature of spiking incidents in each year, offering a description of what was spiked (for example, in 2026, 100 offences involved vape spiking; 60 involved spiking of prescription medication; 200 involved spiking of drinks; etc. I appreciate the descriptive categories held by your force may be different - these are simply illustrative examples. But if the offences can be categorised in any way to clarify what item was spiked, that'd be great)

For your reference, the Met Police appears to collate data in this way:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cqzez9p7wd0ro>

Please treat each question as a separate request - hence, if one question is subject to an exemption, please do not disregard the remaining questions.

SP received your request on 01/10/2026 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.**

1. The number of spiking-related offences recorded by your force in the last 12 months. Please break this data down by year and, if possible, by month.  
**- Disclosed: Please see the attached file entitled, 'FOI 23468 Spiking Offences Data.xlsx'**
2. For each year, please also provide me a summary of the outcome of each offence (e.g., in 2026, 100 offences led to a charge, 200 led to a caution, etc.).  
**- Disclosed: Please see the attached file entitled, 'FOI 23468 Spiking Offences Data.xlsx'**



3. Please provide me with information on the nature of spiking incidents in each year, offering a description of what was spiked (for example, in 2026, 100 offences involved vape spiking; 60 involved spiking of prescription medication; 200 involved spiking of drinks; etc. I appreciate the descriptive categories held by your force may be different - these are simply illustrative examples. But if the offences can be categorised in any way to clarify what item was spiked, that'd be great)  
- **Disclosed: Please see the attached file entitled, 'FOI 23468 Spiking Offences Data.xlsx'**

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. This data has been identified by use of an offence tag (or label) that can be used to identify crimes that are recorded where 'spiking' has been involved in the commission of the offence. This tag was brought into use by SP in late 2025. It relies on officers, when inputting details of the crimes, to select this tag. Thus, it is important to note that additional offences may have been recorded during these timescales that may not be present within this dataset. However, every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete.

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](mailto: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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**POLICE**

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**

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