27 October 2026 **FOI Ref 23553**

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

Freedom of Information Request - Operation Transom Data (Stoke on Trent - Great Chell and Packmoor Ward)
Dear Information Rights Team,

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding Operation Transom-specifically relating to anti-social behaviour (ASB) involving nuisance off-road bikes, quad bikes, e-bikes, and similar vehicles within the Great Chell and Packmoor ward.

Please provide the relevant data covering the period from May 2023 to the present date, broken down by the following items:

Enforcement Actions:

The total number of arrests made in connection with Operation Transom / off-road bike offences.

The total number of successful prosecutions resulting from these arrests.

Seizures:

The total number of motorbikes, quads, e-bikes, and off-road vehicles seized under this operation.

Housing Enforcement:

The total number of social housing tenants evicted (or subject to formal legal tenancy proceedings) by Stoke-on-Trent City Council due to breaches of tenancy agreements linked to nuisance bike usage or related ASB.

Section 59 Warnings / Notices:

The total number of notices or warnings issued under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002 in this ward during the specified period.

Operational Costs & Resources:

The total operational costs incurred for Operation Transom from May 2023 to date.

The total number of operational staff hours allocated to/spent on this operation since May 2023.

SP received your request on 19/10/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this request.

The following exemption has been applied:

- Section 12(1) where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the prescribed limit'.

The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which SP can readily retrieve information from local police systems to answer this request. For the period requested, there have been more than 58,000 arrests in Staffordshire. To ascertain whether any of these arrests were made in connection with Operation Transom / off-road bike offences, or the total number of successful prosecutions resulting from these arrests, the record for each offence would require a manual review. To extract this data would therefore require a very labour-intensive manual trawl through each record.

To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information Act by a considerable margin.

Advice and assistance

Section 16 of the Act places an obligation upon the Authority to provide advice and assistance, to comply with this obligation please see below.

SP can suggest a way in which some parts of your request could be simplified or pared down to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold. However, there is no method by which SP could provide information specifically assigned to operation Transom.

The numbers of seizures of vehicles (which would not differentiate the type of vehicle), seized within the Great Chell and Packmoor wards over the requested time periods could be given. Please note that this would not necessarily include all seizures under Operation Transom as, for example, seizures carried out in connection with that operation may have happened elsewhere than in those wards.

As housing enforcement is undertaken by Stoke-on-Trent City Council you would need to apply to that authority in relation to those parts of your request (using the following webpage).

Freedom of information requests | Freedom of information requests | Stoke-on-Trent

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/

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team