STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

29 October 2026 **FOI Ref 23568**

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

Please provide the following for each calendar year from 2018 to 2025 inclusive concerning offences of controlling or coercive behaviour under section 76 Serious Crime Act 2015.

Where sex is requested, please use the sex recorded on the police record.

1. Number of recorded offences involving:
• male suspect;
• female suspect;
• suspect sex unknown/not recorded.

2. For male and female suspects separately, number resulting in:
• charge/summons for controlling or coercive behaviour;
• charge/summons for an alternative offence;
• Outcome 15;
• Outcome 16;
• other outcomes resulting in no prosecution;
• caution/other out-of-court disposal;
• investigation ongoing.

3. Number of male and female suspects arrested for controlling or coercive behaviour, where readily retrievable.

4. Number of male and female suspects referred to the CPS for a charging decision and, if held, number for whom the CPS authorised a charge.

5. Please provide, where retrievable, the number of recorded CCB cases involving:
• male suspect/female victim;
• male suspect/male victim;
• female suspect/male victim;
• female suspect/female victim.

For each combination, please also provide the number resulting in charge/summons.

Please confirm:

a. whether figures represent offences, suspects, crime-suspect records or unique individuals;
b. whether one offence involving multiple suspects can appear more than once;
c. any significant recording-system/practice changes during 2018–2025 affecting comparison between years.

SP received your request on 21/10/2026 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:

This is because on 20th May 2020 Staffordshire Police implemented a new case management system. This system brought data from multiple legacy systems into one to provide a single nominal record, including the custody system. The old custody system has now been decommissioned and as a result there is no search facility to be able to retrieve the requested data. It would entail searching thousands of records to establish if it fitted the criteria of the request. To achieve this task would exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI Act.

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.

In order to refine your request, data can be provided for questions 1 and 2 in full in relation to suspect gender. With regards to question 3, data can be provided from 20th May 2020 onwards. We do not hold the data in a readily retrievable format to answer questions 4 and 5.

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 Force's 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 20 working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 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