

29 October 2026

FOI Ref 23607

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

Following the internal review of my earlier request (mobile phone thefts and robberies by area), you suggested a narrower request that could be answered within the cost limit. Please treat this as a new request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For the period 1 January 2024 to 30 September 2026, please provide:

1. The number of recorded robbery offences where a mobile phone was stolen, by month and by the smallest geographic area you can provide (for example neighbourhood policing area or local authority district).
2. The number of recorded theft from the person offences where a mobile phone was stolen, on the same basis.

If you can only identify mobile phones from a property type field, a count based on that field is fine. If any part would still exceed the cost limit, please answer the rest and tell me which part caused the problem, in line with your duty to advise and assist under section 16.

Please provide the information in a spreadsheet (Excel or CSV).

SP received your request on 28/10/2026 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.

- For the period 1 January 2024 to 30 September 2026, please provide:
- 1. The number of recorded robbery offences where a mobile phone was stolen, by month and by the smallest geographic area you can provide (for example neighbourhood policing area or local authority district). – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 23607 Mobile Phone Theft Data'.**

Please be advised that this data has been extracted from our Crime/Occurrence recording database for the offence '034/01 - 34B - Robbery - Personal - Theft Act 1968 Sec 8' where the property subtype has been recorded as 'Personal communication device'.

Please note that this dataset only includes occurrences where an officer has selected 'Personal communication device' as the property subtype. There may be further relevant occurrences, including incidents involving the robbery of a mobile phone, where this field was not selected and which are therefore not captured within this dataset.



- 2. The number of recorded theft from the person offences where a mobile phone was stolen, on the same basis. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 23607 Mobile Phone Theft Data'.**

Please be advised that this data has been extracted from our Crime/Occurrence recording database for the offence '039/00 - 39 - Theft from the person of another - Theft Act 1968 Sec 1' where the property subtype has been recorded as 'Personal communication device'.

Please note that this dataset only includes occurrences where an officer has selected 'Personal communication device' as the property subtype. There may be further relevant occurrences, including incidents involving the theft of a mobile phone, where this field was not selected and which are therefore not captured within this dataset.

- If you can only identify mobile phones from a property type field, a count based on that field is fine. If any part would still exceed the cost limit, please answer the rest and tell me which part caused the problem, in line with your duty to advise and assist under section 16.
- Please provide the information in a spreadsheet (Excel or CSV). – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file entitled 'FOI 23607 Mobile Phone Theft Data'.**

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/>

Freedom of Information
Information Access Team