

2 September 2026

FOI Ref 23236

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

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding policing activity associated with the ongoing protest activity at the Elbit Systems UK site in Shenstone, Staffordshire.

As a resident of Shenstone, I have become increasingly concerned about the impact that these repeated protests are having on local residents, road users and policing resources. While I fully recognise the importance of the lawful right to peaceful protest, I also believe there is a legitimate public interest in understanding how Staffordshire Police is balancing this right against its duty to protect the wider community and use public resources efficiently.

I would therefore be grateful if you could provide the following information for the period beginning 1 January 2023 to the date this request is processed.

1. Police deployments

Please provide:

The total number of policing operations or deployments specifically related to protests at the Elbit Systems site in Shenstone.

The number of officers deployed to each operation where recorded.

The total officer hours dedicated to these deployments.

Where available, the rank structure of officers deployed (for example, constables, sergeants, inspectors and public order commanders).

2. Costs

Please provide:

The estimated total cost incurred by Staffordshire Police in policing protests at the site.

A breakdown of costs where available, including:

officer overtime;

mutual aid from other police forces;

specialist public order resources;

equipment;

traffic management; and

any other significant expenditure.

3. Arrests and outcomes

Please provide:

The total number of arrests arising from protests at the site.



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The offences for which arrests were made.
The number of individuals charged.
The number receiving out-of-court disposals.
The number resulting in no further action.

Any convictions recorded, where this information is held.

4. Road closures and disruption

Please provide:

The number of occasions on which roads were closed or traffic diverted due to protest activity.
The duration of each closure where recorded.

Copies of any assessments held regarding disruption to residents, commuters or local businesses.

5. Complaints from the public

Please provide:

The number of complaints, reports or expressions of concern received from members of the public relating to protest activity at the site.

Where categorised, the nature of those complaints (for example, noise, obstruction, intimidation, traffic disruption or anti-social behaviour).

I am not seeking personal information contained within individual complaints.

6. Risk assessments and operational planning

Please provide:

Copies of any strategic threat assessments, community impact assessments or similar documents relating to protest activity at the site, with appropriate redactions where exemptions apply.

Any policy or operational guidance produced specifically for policing protests at this location.

7. Injunctions and legal powers

Please provide:

Details of any injunctions, court orders or other legal measures that Staffordshire Police has relied upon or assisted in enforcing in relation to protest activity at the site.

Any memoranda of understanding or operational agreements between Staffordshire Police and Elbit Systems relating to policing the site, subject to any lawful redactions.

8. Protest-related offences

Please provide statistics showing the number of incidents recorded involving:
aggravated trespass;
criminal damage;



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obstruction of the highway;
public nuisance;
assault on emergency workers;
breaches of the Public Order Act; and
offences under the Public Order Act 2023, where these incidents were connected with protests at the Shenstone site.

engagement

Please provide:

Details of any meetings, consultations or formal engagement between Staffordshire Police and local residents or parish councils regarding the ongoing protests.

Copies of any minutes or summaries where held.

10. Operational review

Please provide:

Copies of any internal reviews, lessons learned reports or post-operation evaluations concerning the policing of protests at this location.

SP received your request on 06/08/2026 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 14(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.

SP are not providing the information you have requested as SP have determined that your request is vexatious under Section 14(1) Vexatious Requests.

The Information Commissioner's guidance on the subject makes it clear that Section 14(1) may be applied where a request, or its impact on a public authority, cannot be justified.

The key question to consider is whether the request is likely to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation or distress based on the impact of the authority, weighed against any evidence about the purpose and value of the request. SP are also entitled to consider the context and history of the request where it is relevant.

SP is treating this request as vexatious because to provide a response to questions already submitted on the same topic, through previous FOI requests that have been responded to, would cause an unjustified and disproportionate burden on the force. This is because there have been 7 Freedom of Information



requests on the same topic. There has been a pattern of overlapping and frequent requests on varying subjects in relation to Elbit Systems and UAV Engines sites. This has become burdensome to the force and is detracting from our ability to respond to other requesters. There has been a bombardment of correspondence and requests on the same or similar topics that the Freedom of Information team and other departments within SP are having to respond to.

For the above reasons, SP have concluded that your request is vexatious within the terms of Section 14(1) of the Act and SP will not therefore be providing the information requested.

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

Or by Post to:

Information Access Team
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

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



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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