

15 September 2026

FOI Ref 23375

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

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am seeking figures for **recorded crimes** of burglary and theft occurring at construction or building sites in your force area over the last five full years (2020 to 2025). If you can provide the data for 2026 too (year to date or up to the most recent date you can) this will also be gratefully received.

By "construction or building site" I mean premises where building, civil engineering or demolition work is taking place, including sites under active development and their associated compounds, site offices and storage. **If you hold a searchable "location type" or "premises type" field, please provide figures for whichever categories correspond to construction/building sites and state those in your response.**

For each of the five years (and 2026 if applicable) please provide the number of recorded crimes, broken down by offence type, for:

1. Burglary (business and community / non-residential) at construction or building sites; and
2. Theft of building materials, plant, tools or equipment from construction or building sites.

In addition, for each of these recorded crimes, is it possible to provide a **geographic breakdown at the most detailed area level** you are able to release without breaching data protection? — for example by local authority district, policing area/BCU, town, or partial (outward) postcode.

Where possible, please supply the data as a table, in Excel or CSV.

If any element of this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please (a) answer the parts that fall within the limit, and (b) tell me how I could refine the request to bring it within the limit — for example by narrowing the offence types or location categories. If you do not hold a searchable field identifying construction or building sites, I would be grateful if you could tell me what location or premises categories you do record, so I can consider a revised request.

Please send the information electronically to this address. I'm happy to clarify anything.

CLARIFICATION SOUGHT:

Staffordshire Police can provide data in response to question 1.

SP cannot provide details of thefts 'of building materials, plant, tools or equipment' as this information is not searchable other than through a manual trawl of each individual record which would invoke a section 12 exemption. However, SP can provide the number of thefts (not classified elsewhere) from construction or building sites. Would this be acceptable?

CLARIFICATION RECEIVED:

Yes, please proceed, thank you.

SP received your request on 10/09/2026 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 each of the five years (and 2026 if applicable) please provide the number of recorded crimes, broken down by offence type, for:

1. Burglary (business and community / non-residential) at construction or building sites; and
- Disclosed: Please see file entitled, 'FOI 23375 Theft and Burglary at Construction Sites Data.xlsx'.
2. Theft (not classified elsewhere) from construction or building sites.
- Disclosed: Please see file entitled, 'FOI 23375 Theft and Burglary at Construction Sites 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. 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

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 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