

16 September 2026

FOI Ref 23380

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

I would like to request data relating to **arrests made by your police force, broken down by the nationality of the person arrested**, covering the period from **1 January 2021 to the most recent date for which data is available**.

For each calendar year, and for the most recent period available in the current year, I would be grateful if you could provide:

1. The total number of arrests made.
2. The number of arrests by the **recorded nationality** of the person arrested.
3. Where available, the nationality category recorded in your system (for example, British, Irish, Polish, Romanian, Indian, Pakistani, etc.).
4. Where available, a breakdown by year, so that the figures can be provided separately for:
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2023
 - 2024
 - 2025
 - 2026 to the latest available date.

If nationality is not recorded for some arrests, please provide the number or percentage for which nationality was **unknown, not stated, not recorded, or otherwise unavailable**.

I am seeking **arrest data rather than convictions, charges or prosecutions**.

I would prefer the information in an electronic format, such as **Excel (.xlsx), CSV, or another machine-readable format**, if possible.

If your force does not hold the information in precisely this format, please provide the closest available data rather than refusing the request, and explain any differences in the way the data is recorded.

If any part of this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please contact me and advise how the request could be refined or narrowed so that the information can be provided.

I would also be grateful if you could confirm:

- the date range covered by the data supplied;
- whether nationality refers to **self-reported nationality, nationality recorded by the police, or another definition**; and
- any relevant caveats concerning the completeness or reliability of the nationality data.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to receiving the information within the statutory timeframe.

SP received your request on 14/09/2026 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.



- I would like to request data relating to arrests made by your police force, broken down by the nationality of the person arrested, covering the period from 1 January 2021 to the most recent date for which data is available.

For each calendar year, and for the most recent period available in the current year, I would be grateful if you could provide:

The total number of arrests made.

The number of arrests by the recorded nationality of the person arrested.

Where available, the nationality category recorded in your system (for example, British, Irish, Polish, Romanian, Indian, Pakistani, etc.).

Where available, a breakdown by year, so that the figures can be provided separately for:

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026 to the latest available date.

If nationality is not recorded for some arrests, please provide the number or percentage for which nationality was unknown, not stated, not recorded, or otherwise unavailable. – **Disclosed, please see the accompanying file titled ‘FOI 23380 Arrests by Nationality Data.xlsx’.**

I would also be grateful if you could confirm:

- the date range covered by the data supplied; - **Disclosed, 01/01/2021 – 13/09/2026.**
- whether nationality refers to self-reported nationality, nationality recorded by the police, or another definition; and – **Disclosed, detainees provide their nationality, which is recorded by officers.**
- any relevant caveats concerning the completeness or reliability of the nationality data. – **Please see below.**

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