

16 September 2026

FOI Ref 23394

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

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for recorded information relating to Complaint [REDACTED]

Following receipt on 15 September 2026 of the outcome of my complaint [REDACTED], I wish to request copies of recorded information held by Staffordshire Police which was referred to, relied upon, or obtained during the consideration of the matters addressed in that complaint.

The outcome letter states, amongst other things, that:

a discussion took place with Tamworth Borough Council;
a multi-agency meeting took place involving police, the local authority and local residents;
I was not present at that meeting;
mapping information provided by Tamworth Borough Council was relied upon in assessing the applicability of Section 34(2)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988;
discussions took place with [REDACTED]; and
the outcome of those discussions informed the police position concerning vehicle access to the land.
I therefore request the following recorded information held by Staffordshire Police:

1. Multi-agency meeting

Copies of:

- a) the minutes, notes, briefing notes, records of discussion or other contemporaneous records of the multi-agency meeting referred to in the outcome report;
- b) the date, location and purpose of that meeting;
- c) any recorded list of attendees or organisations represented;
- d) any agenda, invitation, meeting papers or briefing material associated with the meeting; and
- e) any recorded action points, decisions or conclusions arising from the meeting.

2. Mapping and land-access information

Copies of all maps, plans, diagrams, land-access information or other geographical information supplied by Tamworth Borough Council and relied upon by Staffordshire Police in reaching the conclusion that the circumstances fell within the statutory defence referred to in Section 34(2)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

Please include any accompanying explanatory notes, correspondence or metadata which identifies the source of the mapping and explains the interpretation placed upon it.



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3. Communications with Tamworth Borough Council

Copies of recorded correspondence, including emails and attachments, between Staffordshire Police and Tamworth Borough Council concerning:

vehicle access to the route/bridleway;
the land beyond the route;
the applicability of Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988;
the alleged offences raised in my complaint; and
the multi-agency meeting referred to in the outcome report.
This request is limited to the period 1 January 2026 to 15 September 2026.

4. Internal police records concerning the Section 34 assessment

Copies of any reports, briefing documents, decision records, notes, legal or legislative assessments, emails or other recorded information created or held by Staffordshire Police which explain or support the conclusion that vehicle use of the route fell within the statutory defence under Section 34(2)(a).

5. Records concerning my absence from the meeting

Any recorded information which explains:

- a) who decided which individuals or organisations would be invited to the multi-agency meeting;
- b) whether consideration was given to inviting me, as the person who had raised the concerns subsequently forming the subject matter of Complaint [REDACTED]; and
- c) any recorded reason why I was not present or invited.

6. Other material expressly relied upon in the complaint outcome

The outcome letter states that the investigation included a review of supporting documents and photographs supplied by me, correspondence with the relevant officers, the Road Traffic Act 1988, discussions with Tamworth Borough Council and discussions with [REDACTED].

I therefore request copies of any additional recorded documents, reports, notes or correspondence generated during the investigation which materially informed the conclusions in respect of Allegation 1.

Where any requested information contains personal data relating to individuals other than myself, I would be grateful if the information could be disclosed with appropriate redactions rather than withholding the document in its entirety, where reasonably practicable.

For the avoidance of doubt, I am seeking recorded information held by Staffordshire Police, rather than asking the Force to create explanations or answer questions which are not contained in existing records. If any information is withheld, please identify the specific exemption relied upon and provide the relevant statutory explanation for its application. Where only part of a document is exempt, please provide the remainder with appropriate redactions.



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If any part of this request is considered unclear, too broad, or otherwise likely to exceed the appropriate cost limit, please contact me under the duty to provide advice and assistance before refusing the request, so that the request can be refined if necessary.

Request amended on 16/09/2026:

A correction to my FOI request sent earlier today:

The stated period in the request was:

1 January 2026 to 15 September 2026

This was a typographical error.

The intended period is:

1 January 2024 to 15 September 2026

Please treat this corrected date range as forming part of my original FOI request.

Apologies for the error.

SP received your request on 15/09/2026 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

SP's response to your enquiry is as follows:

SP can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information you requested as it believes that the duty under s1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the duty to confirm whether the public authority holds information of the specified description) does not apply.

The following exemption has been applied:

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this request.

- Section 40(5) Personal Information

Section 40(5) is an absolute exemption which means that there is no need to quantify the harm that may arise from the disclosure; neither is it subject to a public interest test.

To release personal or third-party information that may or may not be held by SP, would breach the data protection principles; namely –

- Data is lawfully and fairly processed.
- Processed in line with an individual's rights.
- Data is secure.

Personal and third-party information cannot be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Disclosure under Freedom of Information is a release of information to the world in general and not an individual applicant.

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.



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An individual can access personal information which SP may or may not hold, by making an application under the Right of Access (formerly known as Subject Access) provision of the Data Protection Act 2018.

<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/rqo/request/ri/request-information/ir/ask-for-delete-change-information/>

Please be advised that 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 information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, considering the matters raised by the complaint.



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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