



**Keeping our communities  
safe and reassured**



FOI ref no: 6588, 6589, 6590, 6591 6592, 6593, 6594, 6595

04/02/2016

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request: reference 6588, 6589, 6590, 6591, 6592, 6593, 6594, 6595 first notified to us on 19 January 2016.**

Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The force's response to your enquiry is as follows:

**6588**

*Please detail the amount spent on language translators, used during the custody process for the years 2015, 2014 and 2013. And please specify the languages required for translation in this process.*

**6589**

*For the years 2015, 2014 and 2013, please can you provide a break down of the nationality and ethnic origin of those arrested and questioned by the police over alleged crimes – with particular reference to violent murders and violent sexual offences.*

*Please can you focus on all murders and then specifically rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault. Is that possible?*

**6590**

*For the years 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011, please detail the number of murders that remain unsolved by the police force.*

**6591**

*For the years 2015, 2014 and 2013, please detail the number of terrorists, or those linked to terrorist activity, that are known and under surveillance by the force.*

**6592**

*Please detail for the years 1995 to 2015 (20 year period) the number of bodies discovered by the police that remain unidentified by the force.*

**6593**

*For the years 2015 and 2014 please detail the number of times people driving off the petrol station forecourt without paying for their fuel was reported to the police.*

**6594**

*For the years 2015 and 2014 please outline the number of mental health patients kept in police custody, under the mental health act, because of a lack of suitable provision for their care. For each, please outline how long they were held past the government stipulated time.*

**6595**

*Using all available digital records, please detail the number of individuals that have disappeared on bail and list the amount of time they have been missing for.*

In relation to the nature of your request, please take this as notice of refusal to provide the data under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act. I have applied section 14(1) Vexatious request exemption.

The Freedom of Information team currently have 163 open requests for information, eight of which you forwarded to us on the same day and all within the space of an hour. You have made frequent and overlapping requests and have not given the force a chance to answer one request before you have sent another.

The requests are random and do not relate to similar themes and as the topic of each request varies it appears that it you are looking for information to report upon rather than have a genuine interest in a specific topic.

The Freedom of Information Act was introduced to allow interested individuals the right to have access to information held by public authorities but was not intended to allow individuals to abuse their rights and place a burden on authorities with requests which cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption.

The ICO guidance highlights random requests and their effect on public authority. Please see the below:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>

If there is a specific topic that you would be of interest to you please do not hesitate to contact me so that I can assist you in obtaining information.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

Tracey Brindley

Freedom of Information  
Corporate Communications  
Staffordshire Police  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Should you require any further information please contact me on 01785 232411.

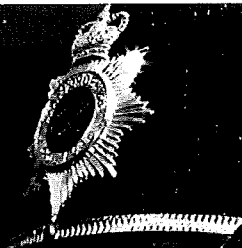
Yours sincerely

Tracey Brindley  
Freedom of Information





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FOI ref no: 6705

18 February 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request - non-disclosure**

**Date request received:** 17 February 2016

**Request for information:**

*Please could you provide me with the details of all FOIs responses you have sent in the last 12 months.*

*Please feel free to do this in the most convenient way possible for you.*

*If for some reason you think this is likely to take 20 hours, then please could you send as many as you can.*

*I realise this is probably quite an unusual request, so please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions at all, or if I can help accommodate the request.*

**CLARIFICATION RECEIVED 17.2.16:**

*I am looking for the details of the responses, as in what you actually sent out to people.*

**Confirmation that information is held:**

Staffordshire Police can confirm that it holds the requested information.

**Decision about disclosure:**

In accordance with Section 17 (1) of the Freedom of Information act, the force will not be disclosing this correspondence to you.

**Exemption applied and reasons:**

I am applying the exemption under Section 14(1) (Vexatious Requests).

**The Information Commissioner's guidance on this subject states:**

**'Section 14(1) may be used in a variety of circumstances where a request, or its impact on a public authority, cannot be justified. Whilst public authorities should think carefully before refusing a request as vexatious they should not regard Section 14(1) as something which is only to be applied in the most extreme of circumstances.'**

**In cases where the issue is not clear-cut the key question to ask is whether the request is likely to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation or distress. This will usually be a matter of objectively judging the evidence of the impact on the authority and weighing this against any evidence about the purpose and value of the request. The public authority may also take into account the context and history of the request where this is relevant.'**

**In 2015 Staffordshire Police received 1,068 Freedom of Information requests. The responses to those requests are recorded on a database which would entail manually checking every response and redacting personal information. Redaction is not permitted to be calculated in the cost of compliance. Another member of staff will then need to check the redactions to make sure that all personal information has been redacted. Any separate data provided with the responses will consist of hundreds of pages of information. Once this task was completed it would either mean printing the redacted responses/spreadsheets to send via the external postal system or saving the redacted responses and then sending them via email. This would be an impossible task as the email system only accepts a certain amount of file size data to be sent in one email.**

**As you can appreciate this is not the only Freedom of Information request that I am dealing with and this process would be very time consuming and would not be able to complete other requests in a timely fashion. Staffordshire Police have 161 requests which are currently being dealt with. There is one full-time and one part-time member of staff in the FOI team and to complete your request would be burdensome and unachievable. Therefore, it has been decided that your request is being treated as vexatious.**

**I would be grateful if you could now liaise with the force press office if you require any further information, context or explanation. In any event, could you please let my colleagues in the press office know if/when you are planning to publish or broadcast these details, so the force has sufficient opportunity to provide a statement or interview? Staffordshire Police's Press Office can be contacted on 01785 234864.**

**Appeals procedure:**

**If you are not happy with the force's decision in this matter, you can apply for the decision to be reviewed by the force. Please send your request, quoting the reference number and the reasons for your request, to:**

Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information  
Corporate Communications  
Staffordshire Police  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Yours sincerely

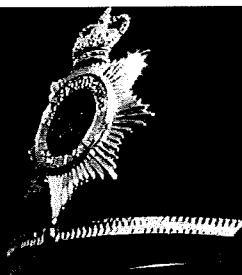
Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information Coordinator







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FOI ref no: 6836, 6837, 6838, 6839

22/04/2016

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information requests: reference 6836, 6837, 6838, 6839**

Thank you for your recent requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The force's response to your enquiry is as follows:

In relation to the nature of your request, please take this as notice of refusal to provide the data under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act. I have applied section 14(1) Vexatious request exemption.

The Freedom of Information team currently have 167 open requests for information, four of which you forwarded to us on the same day. You have made frequent requests and have not given the force a chance to answer one request before you have sent another.

Although two of your requests appear connected e.g. sexual offences in hospitals, care homes etc the other requests do not relate to similar themes and it appears that it you are looking for information to report upon rather than have a genuine interest in a specific topic.

The Freedom of Information Act was introduced to allow interested individuals the right to have access to information held by public authorities but was not intended to allow individuals to abuse their rights and place a burden on authorities with requests which cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption.

The ICO guidance highlights random requests and their effect on public authority. Please see the below:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>

If there is a specific topic that you would be of interest to you please do not hesitate to contact me so that I can assist you in obtaining information.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

Tracey Brindley  
Freedom of Information  
Corporate Communications  
Staffordshire Police  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Should you require any further information please contact me on 01785 232411.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Brindley  
Freedom of Information



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Contact: Julie Ferrie  
Direct Line: 01785 232411  
Our Ref: FOI 7043  
Your  
Ref:

Date: 7 June 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Request for internal review of response to application for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, original requests first notified to Staffordshire Police on 2 June 2016**

I refer to the above request which was expressed in the following terms:

*I would like your team to conduct an internal review of this decision. Your team has cited the reason they have not returned information on 4 separate FOIs in the public interest is her office is citing 'vexatious' reasons for not returning the data. Firstly I strongly refute any potentially defamatory allegation that my requests are vexatious. I would like your FOI team to review this decision. Here are my grounds for the internal review. Today I am also writing to complain to the Office of the Information Commissioner, as I believe Staffordshire Police is being vexatious in refusing this request for a second time more than a month after the due date. More than 40 other UK forces have provided me with the information on both occasions and Staffordshire police have failed to provide me with the information.*

*Without Prejudice*

*1, I would like to cite in relation to the FOI act 2000:*

*2, It has been several months since I submitted my last FOI request to your force and therefore I have not been sustained over a period of time and would argue I am not bombarding your force with repeated requests. In fact I have sent them individually on the same date so as not to appear vexatious.*

*3, I have lodged exactly the same requests to 45 police forces in the UK and the majority have returned information to me. None has ever refused me information on these grounds.*

*4, I am surprised and as a taxpayer, and concerned, that Staffordshire Police does not know how much is pays out on making these claims and does not account for this cost. I will be reporting on this accordingly.*

*5, Finally, I would like to cite the strong public interest grounds that the public has a right to know these figures.*

*6, I would like to know why Staffordshire Police is exempt from providing this information when other forces have made it available.*

*Please can you double check with your FOI data team that this is not possible, before accepting this request for a review*

*As you are aware you have to launch an internal review into each FOI as they were submitted separately.*

**I have reviewed your request for an internal review and my findings are as follows:**

**On 25 March 2016 you submitted the below Freedom of Information requests to Staffordshire Police:**

**Drink/drug drive (Ref. 6836)**

**Compensation claims (Ref. 6837)**

**Sexual offences in nursing/care homes (Ref. 6838)**

**Sexual offences in hospitals (Ref. 6839)**

**On 22 April 2016 Staffordshire Police responded to you that the four requests were being treated as vexatious, citing the exemption Section 14(1) (Vexatious Requests).**

**Staffordshire Police now have 158 Freedom of Information requests which are being dealt with. By submitting this number of requests on the same day and not allowing the force to respond to one request before submitting another, places a further burden and strain on resources.**

**I am aware that having received the vexatious response, you spoke to my colleague and it was agreed that we would provide you with data to request 6836. Please see attached response for details.**

**With regard to your appeal relating to the other three requests, the use of Section 14(1) has been considered and I have decided that the exemption still stands.**

**If you submit these requests one at a time then Staffordshire Police will deal with them accordingly.**

**If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:**

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Yours sincerely

Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information Co-ordinator





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FOI ref no: 6836

7 June 2016



Dear 

**Freedom of Information request: reference 6836, first notified to us by email on 29 April 2016**

Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The force's response to your enquiry is as follows:

1. *How many people have been arrested with 'Driver under the influence of drugs' between 2nd March 2015 – 2nd March 2016.*
2. *How many people have been charged with 'Driver under the influence of drugs' between 2nd March 2015 – 2nd March 2016.*
3. *How many people have been arrested with 'Drunk in charge of a motor vehicle' between 2nd March 2015 – 2nd March 2016.*
4. *How many people have been charged with 'Drunk in charge of a motor vehicle' between 2nd March 2015 – 2nd March 2016.*
5. *How many had a Positive Breath test between the 2nd of March 2015 – 2nd March 2016?*
6. *How many refused a Breath test?*

*I would like to display the data in a table see below. So the figures presented in this simple form would be helpful, although I appreciate some forces may have different recording systems.*

- B. Drug Driving Arrests*
- C. Charged Drug Driving*
- D. Arrested in Charge of Motor vehicle*
- E. Charged Drunk in charge of Motor vehicle*
- F. Positive*
- G. Refused*

I can confirm Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.

**Please see the attached spreadsheet for details.**

I would be grateful if you could now liaise with the force press office if you require any further information, context or explanation. Staffordshire Police's Press Office can be contacted on 01785 234864.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information  
Central Disclosure Unit  
Staffordshire Police  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Should you require any further information please contact me on 01785 232411.

Yours sincerely

Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information Decision Maker



## FOI 6836 - Drug Driving

	Charged	To Court (Postal Requisitions)
Aid abet the driving of a motor vehicle with a proportion of a specified controlled drug above the specified limit		1
Drive motor vehicle with a proportion of a specified controlled drug above the specified limit	60	26
In charge of a motor vehicle with proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	5	1
In charge of motor vehicle - alcohol level above limit	58	
In charge of vehicle whilst unfit through drink	1	
<b>Sum</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>28</b>

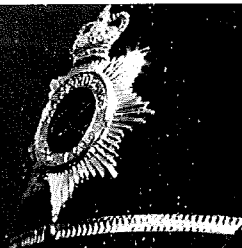
Arrests for Offence of 'Positive Breath Test'	1096
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Refused Roadside Breath Test 2nd March 2015 - 2nd March 2016	9
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FOI ref no: 6851, 6852, 6872, 6896, 6898, 6930, 6931

22/04/2016



Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information requests: reference 6851, 6852, 6872, 6896, 6898, 6930, 6931.**

Thank you for your recent requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The force's response to your enquiry is as follows:

In relation to the nature of your request, please take this as notice of refusal to provide the data under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act. I have applied section 14(1) Vexatious request exemption.

The Freedom of Information team currently have 167 open requests for information, seven of which you forwarded to us within the same month. You have made frequent requests and have not given the force a chance to answer one request before you have sent another.

Although some of your requests appear connected e.g. speed cameras and under 18s committing offences the other requests do not relate to similar themes and it appears that it you are looking for information to report upon rather than have a genuine interest in a specific topic.

The Freedom of Information Act was introduced to allow interested individuals the right to have access to information held by public authorities but was not intended to allow individuals to abuse their rights and place a burden on authorities with requests which cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption.

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Staffordshire Police  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Should you require any further information please contact me on 01785 232411.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Brindley  
Freedom of Information



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FOI ref no: 7352

29 November 2016



Dear 

**Freedom of Information request: reference 7422, first notified to us by email on 26 September 2016**

Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The force's response to your enquiry is as follows:

*In our requests listed below we seek both national and local information e.g. national guidance and local guidance on use of social media intelligence.*

1. *For the time period 1.1.2015 to 1.10.2016*

*Please provide all information relating to guidance / policy / training on the obtaining, use, analysis, retention and destruction of:*

a. *SOCMINT: Social media intelligence*

*And/or*

b. *Online research and investigation and digital investigations and intelligence capability*

*And/or*

c. *OSINT: Open Source Intelligence*

*Please provide all information including: all related policies, training documents, codes of practice. Please include all information related to acquisition, use, retention, storage and destruction. If you use different terminology to refer to social media information and / or open source intelligence please note that our request is directed at that.*

2. *For the time period 1.1.2015 to 1.10.2016*

*Please provide all information relating to statutory guidance / guidance / policy / training on the use of fake profiles by the police on social media, including but not limited to Twitter and Facebook. Please include all information related to acquisition, use, retention, storage and destruction of information via this technique.*

3. For the time period 1.1.2015 to 1.10.2016  
Please provide all information relating to statutory guidance / guidance / policy / training on the use of SOCMINT and OSINT used for the purpose of profile building by the police including but not limited to Twitter and Facebook.  
Please include all information related to acquisition, use, retention, storage and destruction.

4. For the time period 1.1.2015 to 1.10.2016  
Please provide all information relating to statutory guidance / guidance / policy / training on the recording, storing and use of OSINT (Open Source Intelligence). Please include all information related to acquisition, use, retention, storage and destruction.

5. Please provide information on whether you have a head of digital / lead on digital or the equivalent appointed.

I can confirm Staffordshire Police holds the requested information.

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

**I am citing exemption 14(1) (Vexatious Requests).**

**The requested data contains police tactical information. There are in excess of 700 pages of documents and slides which would need to be read and information of a tactical nature and personal information would have to be redacted. Due to my limited knowledge on the subject this would also add time to complete this task. I would then need the assistance of a senior police officer to also read through the data to ensure that all tactical information had been redacted.**

**To provide an explanation as to how long it would take to read the data, I randomly selected 10 pages from the documents and read each page. The average time taken to read each page was 2.15 minutes which calculated to 25 hours just to read 700 pages (this does not include any redactions being made or a senior officer checking that the redactions are correct).**

**As you can appreciate this is not the only Freedom of Information request that the FOI team are dealing with and this process would be a time consuming task. I have therefore decided that at this present time your request is burdensome and not able to complete it within a reasonable amount of time.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

Julie Ferrie  
Central Disclosure Unit  
Staffordshire Police HQ  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Julie Ferrie  
Freedom of Information Decision Maker

