



STAFFORDSHIRE COMMISSIONER
Police | Fire and Rescue | Crime

INTERNAL REVIEW

FOI ref no: SCO/FOI/036/2023/IR

Date: 6 November 2023

Dear

I have undertaken an internal review in response to your request which was expressed as the following:

I wish to ask two questions.

Firstly, when will any publication pertaining to the Staffs Police Dog Welfare Scheme, be published? In particular, in the nearly four years that the Staffs Crime Commissioner's Office, on behalf of the Dog's Trust, has been running the scheme, there has been no Annual Report, or any minutes of the scheme, or any statistics relating to the operation of the scheme, been made public.

Secondly, the question of ethnicity and diversity, within the composition of the Dog Welfare Scheme volunteers.

Internal Review

In reviewing the request, I have taken it as if I had seen the request in the first instance and have sought the relevant information and considered the appropriate response. I have also considered the process of obtaining the requested information.

In the matter of the first part of your request "Firstly, when will any publication pertaining to the Staffs Police Dog Welfare Scheme, be published?" I am to understand that the relevant team anticipate that a report pertaining to the financial year 2022–2023 will be published following the end of the fiscal year.

In relation to the second part of your request, I have considered the number of people involved in the scheme, and the likelihood that they would be identified, with their special category information and equality identification and your personal awareness of its cohort. Due to the very limited number of participants, I have refused to disclose this information and applying an absolute exemption under Section 40 (2) Personal Information. While I am applying this exemption under Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am also mindful of the responsibility of disclosure under the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018, especially under Articles 6 and 9 and a lawful basis would not exist to make this available.

In turning to the process, I am satisfied that it was handled within the appropriate time limits and the relevant information had been provided at the time of request. I am further satisfied that the appropriate response was made including the application of the exemption.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Regards,

Dr David M. Morris FRSA CIPP/E, Data Protection Officer.