

Contact: Freedom of Information
 Direct Telephone: 0300 122 8752
 Extension: 68752
 Email: FOI@derbyshire.police.uk
 Our reference: 01/FOI/25/007498/H
 Your reference:
 Date: 20/10/2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/007498/H

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by Derbyshire Constabulary on 19/09/2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

This is a request for the following information from BBC News to your police force using the FOI act and relates to suspected drug driving offences.

For each of the respective years 2025-26 to date, 2024-25, 2023-24, 2022-23, 2021-22 and 2020-21 can I please ask for the following:

- 1. The number of blood tests sent to a lab for testing, taken from suspects, suspected of driving under the influence of drugs?*
- 2. How many of these tests took under one month to be returned with a result?*
- 3. How many of these tests took between one to three months to be returned with a result?*
- 4. How many of these tests took between three to six months to be returned with a result?*
- 5. How many of these tests took over six months to be returned with a result?*
- 6. How many of these tests were 'lost' or were never returned with a result?*

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Derbyshire Constabulary to locate any relevant information. The searches located information relevant to your request.

Decision

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you in full.

Question 1 –

Information held.

Year	Total
2020	213
2021	209
2022	245

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2023	355
2024	367
2025 to Present	299

Questions 2,3,4 and 5 –

Information held.

Year	Total submitted	Results within 1 month	Results within 3 months	Results within 6 months	Results over 6 months
2020	213	13	159	41	0
2021	209	6	150	53	0
2022	245	27	145	73	0
2023	355	19	207	129	0
2024	367	13	101	253	0
2025	299	101	189	9	0

Question 6 –

Information held.

There were zero cases lost or returned without result.

In relation to this data please note the following:

- The data has been extracted from the Constabulary's Crime System which is, to all intent a 'living' system in that it is constantly being updated. As such the data can only be verified for the date/time extracted.
- Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this Constabulary's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

Right to Request a Review (Complaint)

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Derbyshire Constabulary.

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Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer, on the above telephone number quoting the reference number in the header.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer

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COMPLAINT RIGHTS and COPYRIGHT ISSUES

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled or you do not think the decision is correct, you have the right to require the Derbyshire Constabulary to review their decision. Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter. That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision that Derbyshire Constabulary have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with the Derbyshire Constabulary to have the decision reviewed. **However, this request must be made within 40 working days from the date of our response.**

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to **Freedom of Information Officer, Derbyshire Police Headquarters, Butterley Hall, RIPLEY, Derbyshire, DE5 3RS** or via email at foi@derbyshire.police.uk

Where possible the Derbyshire Constabulary will aim to respond to your complaint within 20 working days. However, meeting this time scale will depend upon the circumstances and complexity of the issue.

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with the Derbyshire Constabulary, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.ico.org.uk. Alternatively, telephone or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF - Telephone: 0303 123 1113.

Important notice regarding Copyright for all disclosures

The Derbyshire Constabulary, in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to release the enclosed information, will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be addressed to the Force Solicitor, Derbyshire Constabulary Headquarters, Butterley Hall, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3RS.

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