

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire SN10 2DN

Telephone: 101

Extension: 62005

Website: www.wiltshire.police.uk

E-mail:

disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



XXXXXXXX

By email

Date: 11 March 2021

Your ref: FOI request

Our ref: FOI 2021/208

Reply contact name is Abigail Standidge

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated the 10th March 2021, concerning car thefts.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Following receipt of your request, research was conducted by the Business Intelligence department at Wiltshire Police. Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

I am running a campaign to reveal vehicle theft across the UK over the last two calendar years, therefore I require data from within your authority on the following, please:

- Vehicle theft from all areas/locations within your authority over the last two calendar years (2020 and 2019 if possible), per year for each policing district/council area. Ideally, I would like to receive data on car theft only, if that's possible, please
- If possible, it would be good to have the data broken down by residential theft please, for example, cars that were stolen from their owner's property
- Lastly, if you filter the "type" of theft e.g., keyless entry, it would be great if you could also include this information

Our response:

The information you are requesting is not stored in a way which permits for easy retrieval. The way in which vehicle thefts are recorded by the Force does not allow for a breakdown of the vehicle type, the location (as requested) or the "type" of theft. To determine any of these factors would require a manual review of each occurrence of vehicle theft for the last two calendar years. This would involve manually reviewing over 1000 records.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it. Therefore the whole of the request should fall under the exemption of section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please also note that if one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is due to the fact that locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

Ordinarily under our Section 16 obligation to provide advice and assistance we would advise you of a way to refine your request to a more manageable level. Due to the difficulties in obtaining the requested information, as outlined above, I cannot think of a way in which this could be achieved.

Although excess cost removes the Forces' obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. What I can provide you with is documented below:

Please note, the data in the tables covers all motor vehicles as this cannot be broken down to provide car only thefts (as explained above).

Type of Vehicle Offence	Year		Grand Total
	2019	2020	
Aggravated veh taking where only aggravating factor is criminal damage of £5000 or under	10	5	15
Aggravated vehicle taking	36	40	76
Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	521	445	966
Grand Total	567	490	1057

Town	Year		Grand Total
	2019	2020	
ALDBOURNE		3	3
ALTON BARNES		1	1
AMESBURY	5	6	11
ANDOVER	1	2	3
ASHTON KEYNES	1		1
ATWORTH	1		1
BAPTON		1	1
BISHOPDOWN	1	5	6

BISHOPSTONE		2	2
BISHOPSTROW	1		1
BLADINGTON	1		1
BOWERCHALKE		1	1
BOWERHILL	1	5	6
BRADFORD ON AVON	7	3	10
BRADFORD-ON-AVON		2	2
BRATTON	2	1	3
BRINKWORTH	1		1
BRISTOL	1	2	3
BROUGHTON GIFFORD		1	1
BULFORD	1	1	2
BULFORD CAMP	1		1
BURBAGE		1	1
BURTON		1	1
CALNE	14	9	23
CHAPMANSLADE		3	3
CHARLTON	1		1
CHILMARK		1	1
CHIPPENHAM	28	29	57
CHIRTON		1	1
CHOLDERTON		1	1
CLYFFE PYPARD	1		1
COATE	1		1
COLERNE		1	1
COMPTON BASSETT	1		1
COOMBE BISSETT		1	1
CORSHAM	3	2	5
CORSLEY		1	1
COULSTON		1	1

CRICKLADE	2	2	4
CROCKERTON		1	1
DAUNTSEY	1		1
DEVIZES	8	11	19
DILTON MARSH	3	1	4
DINTON		2	2
DONHEAD ST ANDREW		1	1
DONHEAD ST MARY	1		1
DOWNTON	3	1	4
DURRINGTON	2	1	3
EAST KNOYLE	1		1
EDINGTON	2		2
ENFORD	1		1
FARINGDON	2		2
FARLEY	1		1
FOREST	1		1
FOVANT	2		2
GLOUCESTER	1		1
GREAT BEDWYN		1	1
GREAT HINTON		1	1
GREAT SOMERFORD		1	1
GRIMSBY	1		1
HEDDINGTON	1		1
HILPERTON	3	4	7
HINDON	1		1
HOLMBURY ST MARY	1		1
KEMBLE	1		1
KILMINGTON	1		1
KINGSTON DEVERILL	1	1	2
KINGTON LANGLEY	1		1

KINGTON MAGNA	1		1
KNOCKDOWN		2	2
LANDFORD	1	1	2
LARKHILL	2		2
LIMPLEY STOKE	1	1	2
LITTLE CHEVERELL	1		1
LITTLETON DREW	1		1
LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL	1		1
LONGHEDGE		2	2
LOPCOMBE		1	1
LOVER		1	1
LOWER WESTWOOD	3	1	4
LUDGERSHALL	1	2	3
LYNEHAM	1	1	2
M4	1	1	2
MAIDEN BRADLEY	2		2
MALMESBURY	4	4	8
MARLBOROUGH	8	7	15
MELKSHAM	9	18	27
MERE	3		3
MIDDLE WINTERSLOW		2	2
MILDENHALL	1		1
MILE ELM		1	1
MINETY	1		1
NESTON	1		1
NETHERAVON		1	1
OLD SARUM	1	2	3
PEWSEY	2	4	6
PITTON	1		1
PORTON		1	1

POTTERNE		1	1
PURTON	5	3	8
RAMSBURY	1	1	2
READING		1	1
REDLYNCH	1		1
ROWDE		1	1
ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT	2	4	6
SALISBURY	41	30	71
SAVERNAKE	2		2
SEDGEHILL	1		1
SEEND		2	2
SEMINGTON	4		4
SEMLEY	1		1
SHAFTESBURY	1		1
SHERSTON	1		1
SLEIGHT	1		1
SOUTHWICK	2		2
STAVERTON	2		2
SUTTON MANDEVILLE		1	1
SUTTON VENY		2	2
SWINDON	250	199	449
TIDWORTH	7	2	9
TILSHEAD		1	1
TISBURY	1	1	2
TOLLARD ROYAL		1	1
TROWBRIDGE	38	28	66
UPAVON		1	1
UPPER WOODFORD	1		1
WARMINSTER	22	25	47
WATER EATON		1	1

WEST LAVINGTON	1		1
WESTBURY	12	12	24
WEXCOMBE	1		1
WHITEPARISH	1	1	2
WILCOT	1		1
WILTON	1	1	2
WINTERBOURNE GUNNER		1	1
WINTERBOURNE MONKTON	1		1
WINTERSLOW		1	1
WOOTTON RIVERS	1		1
YARNBROOK	1		1
Grand Total	567	490	1057

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 12: Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss the withheld information.

Yours sincerely

Abigail Standidge
Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN
Telephone 101 ext 62005



Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, 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 to the:

Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk.

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 Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original Fol request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit 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 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker 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, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant 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 details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the ICO's offices will be closed for the foreseeable future and are therefore unable to receive correspondence via post.

If you should wish to contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>