

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.ukDate: 12th March 2021

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2021 / 136

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15th February concerning traffic accident and driving offences.

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.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested.

You wrote:

1. The number of road traffic accidents in your force area, broken down by month for 2019 and 2020.
2. The number of drink driving offences recorded in your force area, broken down by month for 2019 and 2020.
3. And if possible, the total number of driving convictions/offences recorded in your force area, broken down by month for 2019 and 2020.

Our response:

The information you are requesting is not stored in a way that it is easily retrievable. 'Drink driving' offences are summary offences, which appear on our systems as 'NZ – Non Crime'. This essentially means, that in order to find out the circumstance of the drink driving offence, or if an offence actually took place, we would need to manually sift through all these NZ logs for those two years. We could conduct a 'wild card' search, which allows us to search for specific words within the log, i.e. 'drink' 'intoxicated', however these searches are deemed as highly unreliable, as they are reliant purely on the word/text within the summary. For example if the officer has written 'male blew 40 on metre, clearly intoxicated', then it would appear in our log, but if the officer wrote 'male was drunk, smelled of beer, arrested', then it would not appear. Thus, to avoid that, again, the only way to obtain your data reliably, would be to sift through the two years worth of 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.

Under s.16 duty to help, we have provided you what we can under the prescribed timelimit. Please find below the answers to Q1.

**NUMBER OF RTC'S WITHIN
WILTSHIRE**

	2019	2020
January	294	299
February	305	276
March	395	317
April	391	207
May	386	265
June	367	323
July	465	391
August	375	337
September	406	490
October	445	413
November	444	325
December	411	433
	4684	4076

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the 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.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely,

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 FoI 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