

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Date: 26 April 2021

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2021/359

Reply contact name is: Ellie James

Dear ****,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16 April 2021 concerning Driver Training.

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 having consulted our Driver Training Unit, our Citizens in Policing Team and our Insurance and Litigation team I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote/Our Response:

Please can you provide information, either written or (if applicable) provide supporting flow diagrams/policies/documents for the following:

- 1) What level of driver training is available to Regular Police Constables? Please break this down where applicable into the specific categories (e.g A2B car, response car, advanced car, motorbike, van, etc)

Answer:

We provide the full suite of courses to Regular Police Constables

1. Initial 2 day Basic Course which includes coning and signing, stopping vehicles.
Van 4 week standard response, Initial Phase pursuit
2. 4 Week Advanced Course
3. TPAC
4. VIP
5. Motorcycle Courses



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Please provide information of the minimum requirements for a Regular Police Constable to undertake this training (e.g length of service, rank, role, etc and if so, what).

Answer:

Regular Police Constables receive response training if their role requires it. Most officers go on to response initially, if they intend to remain on response they will be trained at the two year point under normal circumstances. When an officer is trained to standard level they are eligible for advanced training but this is role dependent as with all driving courses.

Please provide information of the delivery of the training to reach the required standard for each category (e.g length of training, delivered mid-week/week-end training, etc)

Answer:

The length of training is as per national standards, Wiltshire police ensure compliance. The standard course is 4 weeks rather than 3 to include initial phase pursuit. All training is carried out Monday to Friday

- 2) What level of driver training is available to Special Constables? Please break this down where applicable into the specific categories (e.g A2B car, response car, advanced car, motorbike, van, etc)

Answer:

Special Constables receive the same 2 day basic course as regular officers
Special Constables can receive the 3 week standard response course

Please provide information of the minimum requirements for a Special Constable to undertake this training (e.g length of service, rank, role, etc and if so, what).

Answer:

The eligibility is currently;

Basic Driving Course (2 day)

Officers must:

- Clearly evidence that they are completing a minimum of 16 hours duty per month
- Complete their Special Constable Accompanied Patrol Course (or previous initial training programme)
- Be actively working towards qualified patrol status (engaged with Phase 2 and PACs)

Standard Driving Course (3 week course)

Officers must:

- Clearly evidence that they are completing a minimum of 16 hours duty per month
- Signed off as qualified

Please provide information of the delivery of the training to reach the required standard for each category (e.g length of training, delivered mid-week/week-end training, etc) and if alternate training schedules or reasonable adjustments are made based on Specials being volunteers with limited availability.

Answer:

Training length as above, national standards do not allow shorter training courses. All Special Constables driver training is during the working week.

- 3) For Special Constables only – Please state whom covers the insurance and legal aid for driving incidents such as a Police Vehicle Accident (e.g Force Insurance, Federation

Insurance, Special Constabulary Insurance, etc) and what the value of this insurance fund is.

When driving Police vehicles, all Special Constables are cover under the insurance policies that cover all of our employees and volunteers. The limit of cover for Motor is £20,000,000 per claim.

More information about Driver Training can be found on the College of Policing Website at: <https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/road-policing-2/>

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,

Ellie James
Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure, details can be found on the following page.



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