

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.ukDate: 6th July 2021

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2021 / 520

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18th June concerning missing individuals.

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:

- As per the categories of data collected and published by the UK Missing Persons Unit and as per the template spreadsheet attached to this request titled "Missing people FOI template", can I ask your force for the numbers of missing individuals over the past 5 financial years from 2017 to date, broken down into adult/child and also broken down by gender, financial year, ethnicity, whether that individual was the subject of a missing person report published externally by the force eg press release/social media/shared with Missing People charity/not published, the missing individuals' risk level, vulnerability (eg CSE/mental health), the duration those individuals were missing, the nature of harm they suffered while missing, the numbers of fatal outcomes, who found them, the reason those individuals were missing. Please note this request is not exempt under Section 22 of FOI: future publication because this combination of data is not published in the way I have asked. Please also include the Command & Control system used by the force eg STORM, ControlWorks and please state the Missing Person system used by the force eg NICHE, COMPACT. Please provide these data in an .xlsx/.xls/.csv file format so I am capable to re-use them as per Section 11 of FOI.
- Can your force also please share with me a copy of its policy on when to publish and not to publish missing persons reports eg press release/social media/sharing an appeal with the Missing People charity?



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Our response:

The information you are requesting is not stored in a way that it is easily retrievable. Wiltshire Police's systems do not have the ability to directly identify the individuals and then break down the data as outlined in your excel file easily. In order to obtain the information you seek accurately, we would require to manually sift through some 4000 files from April 2017.

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 our s.16 obligation to help you where we can, we have provided you with as much data as we could do under the timeframe. We have additionally linked you to our Missing Persons guideline in which Wiltshire Police adhere too. However, we do not hold a specific policy regarding Missing People charity.

1.

Code	Ethnicity ^[2]	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
A1	Indian	11	12	4	8
A2	Pakistani	15	0	16	1
A3	Bangladeshi	3	0	1	1
A9	Any other Asian background	0	5	7	0
B1	Caribbean	10	3	2	11
B2	African	16	14	26	5
B9	Any other Black background	30	8	4	5
M1	White and Black Caribbean	47	20	63	18
M2	White and Black African	2	2	5	1
M3	White and Asian	19	4	4	0
M9	Any other Mixed background	56	61	40	30
O1	Chinese	3	1	0	0
O9	Any other ethnic group	10	9	15	3
W1	British	1605	1387	992	719
W2	Irish	2	3	2	1
W9	Any other White background	52	39	25	14
NS	Not Stated	809	847	874	642

2. www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/major-investigation-and-public-protection/missing-persons/

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