

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

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

XXXXXX – by E mail

Date: 2nd August 2021

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2021 / 632

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29th June 2021 concerning Crimes based on a specific familial relationship between victim and perpetrator.

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 the information you have requested.

You wrote:

1). What is the name of your Police Force?

2) How many incidents or crimes have been reported to your force, where the perpetrator was the son/daughter/stepson/stepdaughter of the victim. This can also include children in care.

For the following years - please break down by month.

2018

2019

2020

2021 - (Jan - July)

3) Please break this down into age,

a) Age 19 and under

b) Age 20 and over

For the following years

2018

2019

2020

2021 - (Jan - July)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

4) Please break this down into type of crime - (for example but not limited to - threat to kill, violence, coercive control, stalking) for the following years

2018

2019

2020

2021 - (Jan - July)

5) How many homicides have been recorded where the perpetrator was the son/daughter/stepson/stepdaughter of the victim in the following years? please break down by month.

2018

2019

2020

2021 - (Jan - July)

Our response:

The information that you are requesting (for questions 2, 3 and 4) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. When an incident involving family members occurs, although we do have a field in our systems where we can record the victim/accused relationship the population of this field is not mandatory and is often left blank. As a consequence, any data obtained using searches of this field would be inaccurate and could not be relied upon for the publication of results into the public domain.

In order to obtain the information you are requesting, we would need to open and review each reported crime occurrence and incident recorded on our system(s) to ascertain whether this met your specific criteria of familial relationship.

In a typical calendar year, Wiltshire Police normally record c40,000 individual crimes on our system(s).

Using simply Violent Offences as an example - and in your request you actually refer to wanting information for **all** crime types – we have recorded the following volumes of offences since 2018 :-

2018	14,084
2019	15,432
2020	15,563
2021	9,443 (to date)

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek (even for 1 year) 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.

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 am able to provide you are the answers documented below :-

Question 1

Wiltshire Police

Question 5

Since 2018, Wiltshire Police have recorded no murders of homicides where the perpetrator has been the son/daughter/stepson/stepdaughter of the victim.

Ordinarily under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case.

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,

Nick Penny
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