



Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext. 62005
www.wiltshire.police.uk
disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



XXXXXXXX
By email

Date: 19th January 2022

Our ref: FOI 2021/1034

Reply contact name is: Abigail Standidge

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15th December 2021, concerning drink and needle spiking. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

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 able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

- 1) For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'drink spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Can you please do a keyword search of MO codes, using the terms, 'drink spiking', 'drink spike', 'drink spiked', 'spiked drink', 'drink interfered with' and 'drink drugged'.

If it is not possible to determine which offences in your records relate to 'drink spiking', then please focus on offences in the time period outlined that use the following Home Office crime codes:

- 005/10 (Administering poison so as to endanger life)
- 005/24 (Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm and intimidate)
- 005/05 (Administering drug with intent to commit, or assist in committing, an indictable offence)
- 008/02 (Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy)
- 088/05 (Administering a substance with intent)



- 2) For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'needle spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Can you please do a keyword search of MO codes, using any combination of the terms 'spike'/'spiked', 'spiking' - or 'laced/lacing' - WITH EITHER 'needle/s', 'syringes/s', 'injecting/ion/ed', 'puncture' or 'prick'.

If it is not possible to determine which offences in your records relate to 'needle spiking', then please focus on offences in the time period outlined that use the following Home Office crime codes (alongside search terms 'needle', 'syringe' or 'injecting' etc):

- 005/10 (Administering poison so as to endanger life)
- 005/24 (Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm and intimidate)
- 005/05 (Administering drug with intent to commit, or assist in committing, an indictable offence)
- 008/02 (Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy)
- 088/05 (Administering a substance with intent)

Can you please make sure the responses to Questions 1 and 2 are given as separate figures.

- 3) If it falls within the cost limit, please provide a breakdown of the gender and age of the complainants in Questions 1 and 2 - again, by month.
- 4) If it falls within the cost limit, please provide a breakdown of the number of arrests, charges and convictions for the incidents recorded in Questions 1 and 2 - again, by month.

Our response

Please note, this data was obtained by completing an MO / summary search for all the requested terms, except for including "drink" or "drug" and with some terms shortened (i.e. 'spik' used to return results for spike, spiked, spiking etc). The Business Intelligence department then checked the returned results to determine whether spiked / laced etc were contained within the MO / summary field, alongside any mentions of drink or drugs. It is possible the results from this search may not be accurate, given it could leave out relevant results due to them not being key words within the MO / summary field, being misspelt etc. To provide accurate results for this request would require a manual search of each report within the specified timeframe to determine if they were relevant to your request.

Please see attached spreadsheet.

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

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.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

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