

**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: 14th January 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 014

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 5th January 2022 concerning Victims Right to Review.

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 Horizon Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and Our Response) :

1. How many Victim's Right to Review (VRR) requests were submitted to your force in 2021?

68

2. How many of the VRR requests received were "qualifying" cases for VRR?

41

3. Cases are non-qualifying when they fall within the criteria below. Please state how many cases were deemed to be non-qualifying for each criterion below.

- (a) Cases where no suspect has been identified and interviewed, for instance investigations that are filed 'at source'

0

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

- (b) Cases where charges are brought in respect of some (but not all) allegations made or against some (but not all) possible suspects

1

- (c) Cases where a charge is brought that relates to the matter complained about by the victim but the offence charged differs from the crime that was recorded; for instance the suspect is charged with common assault but an offence of actual bodily harm has been recorded

0

- (d) Cases which are concluded by way of out of court disposal

3

- (e) Cases where the victim retracts their complaint or refuses to co-operate with the investigation and a decision is therefore taken not to charge/not to refer the case to the CPS for a charging decision.

0 cases where the victim retracted their complaint, but 22 other reasons where the decision was taken not to charge or refer to CPS (such as being outside the time limit, no suspect identified, CPS made the charging decision, etc).

4. How many of those VRR requests concerned reports of rape, sexual assault or domestic violence?

29

5. How many of these VRR requests were deemed to be non-qualifying?

10

6. Please give the numbers that were non-qualifying for each criterion.

Sexual Assault x1 , Domestic Violence x9

7. Of the qualifying VRRs in 2021, how many resulted in:

- a. The original decision being overturned or further enquiries being made;

3

- b. Upheld the original NFA decision

16

c. Have yet to be determined

1

8. Of the qualifying VRRs in 2021 concerning domestic or sexual violence, how many resulted in:

a. The original decision being overturned or further enquiries being made;

5

b. Upheld the original NFA decision

11

c. Have yet to be determined.

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,

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 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