



**Force Disclosure Unit**  
Wiltshire Police HQ  
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[disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk)

Date: 19/01/2022

Our ref: FOI 2022/028

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/01/2022 concerning missing person cases.

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 Performance Department at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

**You wrote:**

I am a third-year Undergraduate and am conducting my Major Project on whether COVID-19 has impacted the police in resolving missing person cases. I would be grateful if you could provide me with the answers to my questions below.

I am looking at 2019, 2020 and 2021 data and would appreciate it if you could provide the data for each separate year.

**Missing persons**

1. How many persons were reported missing during 2019, 2020, 2021? what percentage were Men, Women and Children?  
(please provide data for each individual year)
2. How many of the reported missing person cases were resolved (person found) during 2019, 2020, 2021?  
(please provide data for each individual year)

**Resolved cases**

1. How many cases were resolved within the first month, within three months, within six months and within nine months from the date they were reported missing during 2019, 2020, 2021  
(please provide data for each individual year)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## Staff absences

1. How many Police Officers were reported absent due to sickness NOT relating to COVID-19 during 2019, 2020, 2021 (please provide data for each individual year) 2. How many Police Officers were absent due to self-isolation relating to COVID-19 during 2020, 2021 (please provide data for each individual year) 3. How many Police Staff were absent due to self-isolation relating to COVID-19 during 2020, 2021 (please provide data for each individual year)

Should you not be able to provide all the data for the time periods as requested, I would be grateful if you could provide me with as much data as possible to answer these questions and any further data which you may consider to be useful.

## Response

Please note we do not hold percentages so we have provided you with numbers

### Missing persons

1. How many persons were reported missing during:

2019- 2,324

Men- 598

Women- 321

Children- 1,405

2020- **1,962**

Men- 496

Women- 324

Children- 1,132

2021 – **1,617**

Men- 480

Women- 322

Children- 815

2. How many of the reported missing person cases were resolved (person found) during:

2019 2,317

2020 1,961

2021 1,616

### Resolved cases

1. How many cases were resolved within the first month, within three months, within six months and within nine months from the date they were reported missing during 2019, 2020, 2021 (please provide data for each individual year)

2019 = 1 month = 2,310

2-6 months = 5

6+ months = 2

2020 = 1 month = 1,957

2-6 months = 4

6+ months = 0

2021 = 1 month = 1,615

2-6 months = 1

6+ months = 0

**Caveats:** Please note, an individual can be reported missing more than one occasion so is captured in the above data

### **Staff absences**

1. How many Police Officers were reported absent due to sickness NOT relating to COVID-19 during:

2019- 671

2020- 532

2021- 743

2. How many Police Officers were absent due to self-isolation relating to COVID-19 during:

2020- 334

2021- 413

***This includes individuals who are on covid sick leave and those required to isolate due to track and trace, close contact isolation and those working from home***

3. How many Police Staff were absent due to self-isolation relating to COVID-19 during:

2020- 345

2021- 307

### **Caveats:**

- Data is live and correct as of 19/01/2022
- Data may contain staff/officers who have since left Wiltshire Police
- In August 2021, Wiltshire Police's sickness reporting system changed so may result in minor anomalies in July & August's data
- Covid-19 self-isolation **excludes** those who were absent due to dependents leave

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>