

**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: 11th February 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 109

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 3rd February 2022 concerning Domestic Abuse.

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 Business Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

I'm interested in investigating the impact of the Welsh Minimum Unit Price of alcohol policy on domestic violence. The policy was implemented in Wales on 2nd March, three weeks before the first lockdown that began on 23rd March 2020. As a result, I am requesting data from Police Forces in Wales and in England (as a comparison group).

To that end I would like to request

1. The number of recorded offences flagged as domestic abuse-related for the following crimes:
 - violence against the person
 - sexual offences
 - miscellaneous crimes
 - public order offences
 - criminal damage and arson
 - all other offences

I would like these daily between 1st January 2018 and 31st July 2020.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

2. The number of calls-for-service for domestic incidents, by caller type (e.g. victim or third party) for the following dates given below.

I would like these daily between 1st January 2018 and 31st July 2020.

I would prefer the data to be provided, if possible, in excel or similar format.

Our response:

Please refer to the attached excel spreadsheet which contains two tabs – one providing answers to Question 1 and the other to Question 2.

Please note the following :-

Question 1

For the time period you require, Wiltshire Police have recorded 17,258 individual crimes which have been flagged with a Domestic Abuse marker on our Niche Crime Recording Database. The Domestic Abuse flag that is recorded is held in a separate field on our database in which we record the NICL (National Incident Category List) marker as defined by the Home Office / National Policing Improvement Agency.

Question 2

For the time period you require, Wiltshire Police have recorded 19,050 calls for service where the initial flag at the time the call was received was set as Domestic Abuse related. This information has been obtained by analysing all calls for service received and recorded on our Storm call reporting system.

In respect of this information the following points need to be noted :-

- These calls for service are regarded as incidents – not all incidents actually become crimes that end up being reported on our Niche database.
- These are unique calls received, there will be instances where a number of calls may have been received in respect of the same Domestic Incident (eg from the victim and from a number of witnesses for instance) – every call received that has been marked as Domestic Abuse will be featured in this overall total of 19,050 calls for service even if multiple calls are received about the same individual incident.
- It is not physically possible for us to break these 19,050 individual DA-related calls into a unique number of individual DA incidents that required a call for service.
- It is highly likely that a number of these 19,050 calls for service were ultimately not found to be related to Domestic Abuse after all. If that is the case - on attendance by Officers – it is not our policy (nor is it practical) for us to amend the initial flag that is created on our Storm system which records the nature of the call. In reality the real figure of unique calls for service related to Domestic Abuse will be very much lower than the 19,050 I have provided information for.

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