

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 11th March 2022

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2022/139

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 9th February 2022 concerning deaths of children.

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, searches were conducted by the Performance Team of Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and it is not possible to meet your requirements in full.

You wrote:

1. How many reports of the deaths of children under 18 were investigated by the force between 1 Jan 2020 and 31 December 2021? Please can I have the data broken down by month and year.
1a.) Of the above, please can you also provide a breakdown of the reports by type of injury, ethnicity, and the age groups 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-17
2. Please provide us with the following details concerning any charges of causing or allowing the death of a child which you have brought since 22 March 2020, where that child died during the period March 2020-Dec 2021:
 - the relevant case number(s)
 - the court where the case is listed
 - names of defendant(s)
 - date(s) of birth of defendant(s)
 - address(es)

Our response:

Due to the level of detail you require, in particular a breakdown of the requested figures into monthly stats, alongside the individual's ethnicity and their age group – your request is exempt; as to provide you with these details would provide you with information, which in itself may identify individuals, or

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

to do so when put together with other information, which you may be able to obtain. This would then be a disclosure of that person's personal information in breach of the Data Protection Principles and therefore, exempt under Section 40(2) of the Act 2000.

However, to assist you as best I can, but maintain the rights and entitlements of those individuals; I am prepared to disclose to you the following information –

- 1.) *There have been **4 reports** of deaths of children under 18 between the 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2021.*
- 2.) *There have been **no** charges brought within the time frames requested.*

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and therefore there is no requirement to articulate the harm or conduct a Public Interest test.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide 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. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemption applied:

Section 40(2) – Personal information

In accordance with Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a partial 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,

Kay Moore
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