

**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: 2nd March 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 165

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15th February 2022 concerning Medically Retired Officers.

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 Finance & Human Resources Teams - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the number of police officers within your force who have been medically retired in the past two years in part or fully on mental health grounds.

Please would you send me;

For 2019;

- A. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired.
- B. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired specifically on mental health grounds.
- C. A breakdown of the specific mental health issues cited as reasons for medical retirement (including depression, anxiety, PTSD, stress...etc.)

For 2020;

- A. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

B. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired specifically on mental health grounds.

C. A breakdown of the specific mental health issues cited as reasons for medical retirement (including depression, anxiety, PTSD, stress...etc.)

For 2021;

A. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired.

B. The number of individual police officers within your force to have been medically retired specifically on mental health grounds.

C. A breakdown of the specific mental health issues cited as reasons for medical retirement (including depression, anxiety, PTSD, stress...etc.)

Our response:

The number of Officers within our Force that have been medically retired (by year and reason) is as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Medical Retirements</u>	<u>Mental Health-related</u>
2018/19	6	1
2019/20	4	3
2020/21	4	2
2021/22	3	2

Of the 8 cases of officer retirees being for Mental Health-related reasons, the issues cited for that retirement are as follows (see note below) :-

Anxiety	1 case
Anxiety & Depression	1 case
Depression	1 case
Psychosis	1 case
PTSD	4 cases

Please note

- Information for 2021/22 is up to the end of January 2022.
- We only hold this information by fiscal year, it is not held by calendar year.
- There is no obligation on an Authority to create information (where none exists today) simply to answer an FOI request – eg by calendar year.
- If we were to break the specific MH issues down by each fiscal year, due to the small number of cases involved – and information that may already be in the public domain about individuals – it could lead to individuals being identifiable. For that reason, I have provided you with the summary above, rather than exempt a response entirely to this question under S40(2) Personal Information.

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