

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 9th November 2021

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2021/805

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 7th October 2021 concerning incidences of 'road rage'.

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 after having consulted the Justice Traffic department and the Performance Team – I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Under the Freedom Of Information Act I would like to request the following data for the last 5 calendar years:

- 1) The number of reported crimes which mentioned "road rage" in the MO field of the crime report
- 2) A brief summary of each reported crime listed in your answer to question 1
- 3) The number of road traffic accidents recorded with a contributing factor of "aggressive driving" (code 601)
- 4) If it is within the time/cost limit of the FOI Act, a brief summary of the incidents listed in your answer to question 3

Clarification received (22/10/21):

In relation to Q2, the applicant was asked whether they would either like the summary of the incident (where it contains the key words 'road 'rage') or offence description (such as common assault, criminal damage etc) and after some discussion, the applicant stated that they would like any information in relation to this question and that will not take too much time. As a result, I have disclosed to you the offence descriptions for Q2 with regards to Q1 below.

With regards to Q4, the applicant was informed that providing either an incident summary or offence description would likely go over the cost/time limit (due to another department dealing with Q3 and Q4) and so the applicant was happy to receive information relating to the seriousness of the

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incident, and the weather conditions the incident took place in instead. As a result, this information has been provided below.

Our response:

1.) 385.

2.) The table below shows the offence description that the crimes detailed for question 1 fall under. The data shown in the table below is reflective of the following dates: 01/01/16 – 13/10/21.

Reported Year	Offence Description	Count
2016	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	12
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	17
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	16
	Criminal damage to a vehicle - under £5000	7
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	5
	Malicious Wounding:- Wounding or Inflicting grievous bodily harm (without intent Section 20)	1
	Possessing firearm or imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence	1
	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	1
	Theft from a motor vehicle	1
	Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage/to destroy own property	1
	Threaten a person with an offensive weapon in public place	1
	Threats to kill	1
2017	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	17
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	20
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	21
	Criminal damage to a vehicle - under £5000	2
	Criminal damage to vehicle (under £5000)	9
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	6
	Possessing firearm or imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence	1
	Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4a POA)	2
2018	Affray	1

	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	12
	Assault with intent to rob personal	1
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	10
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	18
	Criminal damage to vehicle (under £5000)	6
	Dangerous driving	1
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	10
	Malicious Wounding:- Wounding or Inflicting grievous bodily harm (without intent Section 20)	1
	Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4a POA)	1
	Theft or unlawful taking of pedal cycle	1
	Threats to kill	1
2019	Affray	1
	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	16
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	11
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	15
	Criminal damage to other property (under £5000)	1
	Criminal damage to vehicle (under £5000)	5
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	6
	Harassment, alarm or distress (S5 POA)	1
	Malicious Wounding:- Wounding or Inflicting grievous bodily harm (without intent Section 20)	1
	Possess an offensive weapon	1
	Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4a POA)	2
	Threaten a person with an offensive weapon in public place	2
2020	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	14
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	13
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	16
	Criminal damage to vehicle (under £5000)	6
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	6
	Harassment, alarm or distress (S5 POA)	1

	Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4a POA)	1
	Threaten a person with an offensive weapon in public place	1
	Use of substance or object to endanger life offences (Class 5B)	1
2021 (up until 13/10/21)	Affray	1
	Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	16
	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (S4A POA)	19
	Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	9
	Criminal damage to vehicle (under £5000)	5
	Fear or provocation of violence (S4 POA)	2
	Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4a POA)	4
	Theft from a motor vehicle	1
	Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage/to destroy own property	1
	Wounding with intent to do GBH Section 18	1

Please note, in relation to question 1 above where you requested for a wildcard search to be carried out for the term 'road rage' and question 2 was a breakdown of that wildcard search, as you may be aware, wildcard searches are not a reliable way of obtaining information accurately. This is because the system used searches for particular words within the summary of the incident and no further. Therefore, please do bear in mind that there may have been other occurrences involving some sort of mention of 'road rage', that might not have been mentioned within the summary of the occurrence but within the crime report itself, and as a result this unfortunately would not have been picked up on from the wildcard search requested. Also, the other issue with wildcard searches is that the terms requested to be searched on could bring back data that might be out of context to the information you are actually after. Therefore, please do bear these things in mind when looking at this information.

Also, please note, that the figures provided below for questions 3 and 4 relate to injury collisions only. In order for us to retrieve information related to non-injury collisions, this may take us over the cost/time limit.

3.) The number of collisions recorded with a contributing factor of aggressive driving in the last 5 years (01/03/16 – 28/02/21) is 207.

4.) Collisions between dates 01/03/16 – 28/02/21:

Totals Slight : 143
Serious : 52
Fatal : 12

Light : 150
Dark : 57

Dry : 165
Wet : 39

Total number of collisions: 207

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 Fol 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