

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext. 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.ukDate: 5th November 2021

Our ref: FOI 2021/ 873

I write in connection with your request for information dated 1st November concerning under 18 arrests for drugs in rural areas.

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 performance team, I am happy to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

A) Between 2017 and 2021 how many children (under 18) have been arrested due to a drug-related offence in rural areas of your Police Force Area and what was the outcome (for example charge, caution, community resolution or NFA). This offence could be related to:

- possession of drugs
- possession with intent to supply drugs
- or supply of drugs

To be clear we are interested in the number of children in rural areas who are offenders and/or victims of County Line drug activities. I have attached the postcodes of the areas considered to be rural by DEFRA's Rural Urban Classification to assist you in providing us with this information.

B) Between 2017 and 2021 how many children (under 18) have been charged with possession of drugs, possession with intent to supply or supply of drugs within your Police Force Area.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Response

Arrest Year	Unique Arrested persons-rural
2017	1
2018	1
2019	5
2020	4
2021	1
Total	12

A) This data has been extracted from custody data only. It is therefore a count of the total number of unique people arrested, that have an arrest age under 18, for crime group 'drug offences'. This includes 'trafficking of drugs' and 'possession of drugs'. Only the rural postcodes that match the ones provided by the requester have been selected. Note, this is a count of the person for example if 1 individual committed 2 offences, this will only be counted as 1...

For the time period selected there are 12 unique children arrested. There 13 arrests against these children. Meaning, 1 person has been arrested twice. There are 22 offences associated with these arrests.

Arrest Year	Detection Status	Unique Arrested persons-rural
2017	Hist - 2. Caution-youths	1
2018	1: Summoned/postal requisition	1
2019	2: Youth conditional caution	2
2019	1: Charged	1
2019	1: Summoned/postal requisition	1
2019	1A: Alternate offence summoned/postal requisition	1
2019	2: Youth caution	1
2020	New	2
2020	2: Youth caution	1
2020	15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	1
2021	New	1
	Total	13

A) The outcome of the arrested person has been supplied. Note, there are 13 outcomes aligning to the 13 arrests that have taken place.

B) This question is highlighted in yellow. There has been 1 unique person charged using **custody disposal** 'charge'.

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.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

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/>