

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 28th June 2022

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2022/375

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27th April 2022 concerning recorded offences of sexual communication with a child. My apologies for the delayed response.

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 Performance Team – I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

1. Please tell me the number of recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, sexual communication with a child, (Home Office recording code 71/17) recorded from (and including) April 1st 2021 until (and including) March 31st, 2022.
2. Where possible I would like to know the age and gender of the victim, broken down into age groups: 11 and under, 12-15, 16 and over.
3. Please tell me the age and gender of the youngest victim.
4. Please tell me all the forms of communication (eg. which social media or messaging platform such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Kik, TikTok etc.) that have been recorded as having been used in connection with recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, sexual communication with a child, from (and including) April 1st 2021 , until (and including) March 31st 2022.

I suggest a table as follows:

Total number of offences	Number of female victims	Number of male victims	Age and gender of the youngest victim	Method of communication used	Number of times each method



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

						was used
	11 and under		11 and under			
	12-15		12-15			
	16 and over		16 and over			

Where the number of victims is greater than zero but fewer than five, please use a * if necessary, rather than rejecting my request on the grounds of protecting personal information.

As discussed over the phone on 27th June 2022, you stated that you would like me to remove the 'number of times each method was used' part from your request, as this was the part that was taking a considerable amount of time to achieve as it involved looking through all the documents related to each offence to see if this information was recorded. Although, I don't believe this would've fallen under the time/cost limit exemption, this would have regardless taken a substantial amount of time to do and as a result of this, you explained that you were content with removing this part of the request in order receive a quicker response.

Our response:

Total number of offences	Number of female victims		Number of male victims		Age and gender of the youngest victim	Method of communication used
34	11 and under	4	11 and under	1	Female aged 9	• Omegle • Snapchat • Phone • Instagram • Snapchat
	12-15	13	12-15	2		• Grindr and Whatsapp • Discord • Snapchat • Snapchat • Facebook Messenger • Snapchat • Phone and Instagram • Facebook, Whatsapp and Phone • Snapchat • Whatsapp

					• Snapchat • Snapchat • Snapchat • Snapchat • Facetime
	16 and over	6 (one offence involves a decoy, however, they were incorrectly marked as the 'aggrieved', when it should have been The State)	16 and over	0	• Social media website not specified (this one relates to where a decoy was used) • Instagram • Snapchat • Facebook Messenger • Instagram • Instagram

Please note, I have provided a separate table below for offences where the gender and age of the victim is showing as NULL, and this tends mean that the aggrieved is either The State or Peadophile Hunters –

NULL Age and Gender	Method of communication used
8	• Facebook Messenger • Mingle and Whatsapp • Google Hangout and Say Hi • Say Hi • Say Hi • Facebook Messenger • Facebook Messenger • Facebook Messenger

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