

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 1st June 2022

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2022/414

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information originally dated 10th May 2022 (however, a refined request was received on 31st May 2022) concerning dead birds of prey reports.

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 (original request):

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 about the number of reports the police force has received, regarding the number of confirmed dead birds of prey over the past five years.

- Please would you be able to tell me the number of dead birds of prey that have been confirmed by the police for each year?
- Please would you be able to tell me the cause of death confirmed by the police for each dead bird of prey for each year? If the answer is unknown, please state this.
- Finally, for each year, would you be able to tell me how many of these confirmed deaths resulted in some form of police prosecution stating whether or not each prosecution was successful?

Refined request received on 31st May 2022:

Please can you search for “wildlife bird” under any offences that may fall under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Our response:

A wildcard search on the words “wildlife bird” has been carried out on our systems but there were no results that were brought back from this search.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

As you may be aware, wildcard searches are not necessarily the most reliable way of searching for information. When a requestor asks for us to conduct a wildcard search, it always comes with the caveat that they are unreliable and inaccurate. This is because the system(s) searches for particular words within the summary of the occurrence and no further. Therefore, please do bear in mind that there may have been reports involving the key words "wildlife bird" together in some way, that might not have been mentioned in the summary of the occurrence but within the crime report itself for example, which our system(s) would not have picked up. Not only this, but the use of the key words in the summary of the occurrence may be used out of context to what you are requesting the information for. As a result, the only way in which we would be able to ascertain the information you are requesting accurately would be to manually peruse through all reports, logs, statements etc for the time frame requested.

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