



Via Email



Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext. 62005
www.wiltshire.police.uk
disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: 22/06/2022

Our ref: FOI 2022/489

Reply contact name is:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/06/2022 concerning armed officers attending reports of dangerous dogs.

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 I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

I wish to find out how many times armed officers have been dispatched to respond to reports of dangerous dogs over the last five years.
Please provide a number for each of the years below.

2018
2019
2020
2021
2022 - to date

If possible, please state a brief summary of the incident and what happened to the dog.
If possible, please state what breed of dog/s was involved.
If possible, please state the amount of money spent sending armed response teams to the incidents involving dangerous dogs.

Response

Please note I have been advised by our Force operations that the only deployment where firearms officers have been given authorisation was in one incident in 2021. The dogs were not located; however, the log mentions a lurcher and a patterdale type dog. Officers did not



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**sight the dogs so this cannot be confirmed.
Please see below a summary of the incident.**

Notes:	Two dogs had mauled and killed 6 sheep. Farmer has seen animals running off. No owner seen and did not recognise the dogs. Authority granted as dogs were destroying property and if needed to destroy dogs to save livestock. Agreement from Farmer that we would act on his behalf. Whilst searching for these dogs, two further sheep were located that were still alive but needed dispatching due to their severe injuries and suffering unnecessarily. Area search negative for dogs.
Result:	Farmer reported that 2 dogs had got into his field and killed 5 sheep. On arrival it was clear that 5 sheep had indeed been killed. Authority given to destroy the dogs if it was deemed necessary. No dogs were located. During the search 2 further injured sheep were located with facial injuries that they would not survive. As such they were destroyed at the request of the farmer.

I have been advised by our financial department that there is no information held on the cost of this.

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.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
[Make a complaint | ICO](#)

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/>