

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 15th July 2022

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2022/549

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30th June 2022 concerning sexual offences against children.

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 not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

1. For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022:
 - a) The number of recorded sexual offences against children aged under 18, broken down by offence along with the age and gender of victims (by individual year of age where possible or grouped into 0-5, 6-10, 11-15 and 16-17).
 - b) The number of above offences that had a cyber flag attached.
2. For the periods 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, and 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 broken down by year:
 - a) The number of suspects charged for child sexual offences.
 - b) The number of cases referred to the CPS for child sexual abuse offences.

Please note, if this request exceeds the time and cost limit then please only supply a response to question 1.

Our response:

The information that you are requesting (namely question 2b) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. Information relating to the number of cases that have been referred to the CPS for child sexual abuse offences is not data that is centrally stored, therefore, in order to obtain this information accurately, this would involve us having to manually peruse through each crime report as well as other associated documents for the time frames requested. As a result of this, this part of your request is exempt from disclosure.

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it.

Please note, that if one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is due to the fact that locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

Although excess cost removes the forces' obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. What I am able to provide you are the answers documented below –

1. For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022:

- a) The number of recorded sexual offences against children aged under 18, broken down by offence along with the age and gender of victims (by individual year of age where possible or grouped into 0-5, 6-10, 11-15 and 16-17).

Offence Description	Gender and Reported Age							
	F 0-5	F 6-10	F 11-15	F 16-17	M 0-5	M 6-10	M 11-15	M 16-17
Abuse of position of trust: Sexual activity in presence of a child - male victim aged 13-17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adult attempt to engage in sexual communication with a child	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Arrange or facilitate the commission of a child sex offence - (S14, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted rape of a female child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted rape of a male child under the age of 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Cause a person to engage in sexual activity without consent (S4, SOA 2003)	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0
Causing a child under 13 to watch a sexual act (S 12/13, SOA 2003)	0	1	8	0	0	0	1	0
Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act (S12/13, SOA 2003)	0	1	12	0	0	0	1	0
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity (Sec 8 SOA 2003)	0	5	23	1	0	3	6	1
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age (S 10/13, SOA 2003)	0	3	6	0	0	1	3	0
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: female child - no penetration	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Causing or inciting a child under 16 to engage in sexual activity (S10/13, SOA 2003)	0	0	63	6	0	0	14	0
Causing or inciting a child under 16 to engage in sexual activity: female victim - no penetration, age of offender under 18 years	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Engage in sexual communication with a child	0	2	14	2	0	0	3	0
Engaging in sexual activity in presence of a child under 13 (S 11/13, SOA 2003)	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Engaging in sexual activity in presence of a child under 13 by an offender over 18 years of age	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child under 16 (S11/13, SOA 2003)	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Exposure (S66, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Inciting a child family member under 18 to engage in sexual activity (S26, SOA 2003)	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paying for sexual service of a child (S47, SOA 2003)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Rape of a Female aged 16 or over (Sec 1 SOA 2003)	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0
Rape of a Female aged under 16 (Sec 1 SOA 2003)	0	0	50	6	0	0	0	0
Rape of a female child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	0	3	17	4	0	0	0	0
Rape of a Male aged 16 or over (Sec 1 - SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Rape of a male aged under 16	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rape of a male child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Rape of female aged 16 or over - multiple undefined offenders	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sexual activity involving a child under 13 by an offender under 18 years of age (S9, SOA 2003)	3	2	5	3	3	3	4	0
Sexual activity with a child family member (S25, SOA 2003)	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Sexual activity with a child under 16 (S9/13, SOA 2003)	0	0	25	4	0	0	5	2
Sexual activity with a child under 16: female victim - penetration, age of offender under 18 years	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault of a female 13 or over by penetration (S2, SOA 2003)	0	0	11	9	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault of a female child under 13 (S3, SOA 2003)	8	18	41	4	0	0	1	0
Sexual assault of a female child under 13 by penetration (S6, SOA 2003)	2	6	6	1	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault of a male child under 13 by penetration (Sec 6 SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0

Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over (S3, SOA 2003)	0	0	100	69	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault on a male 13 or over by penetration (Sec 2 SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Sexual assault on a male aged 13 or over (Sec 3, SOA 2003)	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	7
Sexual assault on a male child under 13 (Sec 7, SOA 2003)	0	0	0	0	4	3	5	2
Voyeurism (S67, SOA 2003)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Voyeurism additional offences (upskirting)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

1. For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022:

b) The number of above offences that had a cyber flag attached.

Offence Description	Gender and Reported Age				
	F	F	F	M	M
	6-10	11-15	16-17	6-10	11-15
Adult attempt to engage in sexual communication with a child	0	1	0	0	0
Arrange or facilitate the commission of a child sex offence - (S14, SOA 2003)	1	0	0	0	0
Causing a child under 13 to watch a sexual act (S 12/13, SOA 2003)	1	6	0	0	1
Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act (S12/13, SOA 2003)	1	12	0	0	1
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity (Sec 8 SOA 2003)	4	18	0	2	5
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age (S 10/13, SOA 2003)	2	6	0	0	1
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: female child - no penetration	0	1	0	0	0
Causing or inciting a child under 16 to engage in sexual activity (S10/13, SOA 2003)	0	50	4	0	11
Engage in sexual communication with a child	1	11	2	0	2
Engaging in sexual activity in presence of a child under 13 (S 11/13, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child under 16 (S11/13, SOA 2003)	0	3	0	0	0
Inciting a child family member under 18 to engage in sexual activity (S26, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0
Paying for sexual service of a child (S47, SOA 2003)	0	1	1	0	0
Rape of a Female aged 16 or over (Sec 1 SOA 2003)	0	0	1	0	0
Rape of a Female aged under 16 (Sec 1 SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0
Rape of a female child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	0	0	1	0	0

Sexual activity involving a child under 13 by an offender under 18 years of age (S9, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0
Sexual activity with a child under 16 (S9/13, SOA 2003)	0	6	1	0	0
Sexual assault of a female child under 13 (S3, SOA 2003)	0	1	0	0	0
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over (S3, SOA 2003)	0	3	1	0	0
Voyeurism (S67, SOA 2003)	0	0	1	0	0
Voyeurism additional offences (upskirting)	0	1	0	0	0

2. For the periods 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, and 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 broken down by year:

a) The number of suspects charged for child sexual offences.

Fiscal Year	Charged / summonsed
2017-2018	68
2018-2019	40
2019-2020	27
2020-2021	26
2021-2022	13
Grand Total	174

Ordinarily under our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request in respect of question 2b) to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 12: Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

- (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

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