

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 3rd August 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 626

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 1st August 2022 concerning Dog Attacks.

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 Business Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and Our Response) :

Under the Freedom of Information, please could you provide me with the number of reports of dog attacks (i.e. owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog).

Please can you provide the number of reported incidents in January to July 2020, the number in January to July 2021 and the number in January to July 2022.

Period	Crimes	Non-Crime Incidents
Jan-July 2020	159	12
Jan-July 2021	185	12
Jan-July 2022	247	19



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Please can you provide a breakdown of the figure for each time period by recorded outcomes (e.g. number of Charge/Summons, Community Resolution etc).

Disposal	Jan-July 2020	Jan-July 2021	Jan-July 2022
1: Charged	2	0	1
1: Summoned/postal requisition	8	7	1
1A: Alternate offence summoned/postal requisition		0	1
3: Adult Caution	1	0	0
3: Adult conditional caution	1	1	0
8: Community resolution	5	2	4
10: Police - formal action not in public interest	1	1	0
14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	0	8	7
15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	52	90	56
16: Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified	44	26	31
18: Investigation complete no suspect identified	29	35	48
20: Other body/agency has investigation primacy	13	8	10
21: Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest	1	4	0
Cancelled/transferred	12	12	19
New	2	3	88

Note :-

Disposals listed as “New” remain open and live investigation.

Where possible, for each incident can you provide information about the age of the victim in the report (in 10 year age groups), the breed of dog involved, whether a seizure of the dog was made (under the Dangerous Dogs Act), and whether, subsequently, the dog was destroyed.

Age of Victim	Jan-July 2020	Jan-July 2021	Jan-July 2022
0-10	40	43	54
11-20	21	20	33
21-30	10	22	20
31-40	20	25	27
41-50	28	20	30
51-60	25	31	41
61-70	16	17	29
71-80	5	10	12
81-90	2	2	8
91-100	0	0	1

Note :-

The total number of victims differs from the total number of crimes/incidents recorded as in some instances there is more than one victim and in others, the victim age has not been recorded on our system(s) or not necessarily been identified yet (open/live cases).

Breed of Dog Involved – **No Information Held**

Whether seizure was made – **No Information Held**

Whether dog was destroyed – **No Information Held**

Please Note

- Although our crime/incident recording system(s) are sophisticated we do not have separate searchable field in which we record the breed of a dog involved in crimes, whether seizure of that animal occurred or whether the animal was destroyed.
- If any of this information is held at all - and in many cases it would either not be known or would not have been recorded (as there is no mandatory reason for us to do so) - it would be either recorded within the Investigation Log of the offence or held in other supportive documents such as statements, records of interview and so on that may have been saved as supportive documents on our system(s).
- Given that there are 634 crimes and incidents that meet the criteria of your request, I am absolutely confident that searching for this information would invoke a Section 12 exemption to your request as the time 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.
- **It should also be remembered that there is no obligation on an Authority to create information – where none exists today – simply to answer an FOI 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,

Nick Penny
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 Fol 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