

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXXXX
By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 4th October 2022

Our Ref FOI 2022/755

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26th September 2022, concerning serious knife crime.

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.

Following receipt of your request, research was conducted by the Business Intelligence department at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote and our response:

Please note:

- ❖ Blank rows in the column for question 2 (charged or summons) reflect no charges / summons in that month.
 - ❖ Data from 2020 onwards is via the Home Office National Data Quality Improvement Service (NDQIS) system, which selects relevant crimes by the Annual Data Return (ADR) parameters. Prior to 2020, this was done by a Wiltshire Police employee.
 - ❖ The NDQIS uses a computer-assisted classification tool designed to improve data quality reported to the Home Office.
 - ❖ During the 3 years of NDQIS, there have been a number of refinements and improvements to the system.
1. Please supply the number of offences flagged as serious knife crimes in your area on a monthly basis since January 2012 (or the earliest possible date) until August 2022. A serious knife offence is any a) murder, b) attempted murder, c) threats to kill, d) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm, e) robbery, f) rape and sexual assault and g) homicide which is flagged as using a knife, as submitted by your data team to quarterly releases.

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2. Please supply the number of offences flagged as serious knife offences in your area which have resulted in a charge or summons on a monthly basis since January 2012 (or the earliest possible date) until August 2022.

Reported Month Year	Q1 - Number of offences	Q2 - Charged / summons
Jan-2012	6	4
Feb-2012	11	4
Mar-2012	7	3
Apr-2012	13	4
May-2012	7	2
Jun-2012	8	7
Jul-2012	10	6
Aug-2012	6	2
Sep-2012	9	1
Oct-2012	6	3
Nov-2012	9	7
Dec-2012	6	3
Jan-2013	5	3
Feb-2013	5	3
Mar-2013	5	4
Apr-2013	9	3
May-2013	9	2
Jun-2013	8	2
Jul-2013	1	
Aug-2013	13	3
Sep-2013	10	3
Oct-2013	7	1
Nov-2013	7	1
Dec-2013	8	3
Jan-2014	8	3
Feb-2014	5	5
Mar-2014	7	
Apr-2014	9	7
May-2014	13	4
Jun-2014	7	4
Jul-2014	10	2
Aug-2014	9	4
Sep-2014	8	
Oct-2014	6	5
Nov-2014	16	3
Dec-2014	9	3
Jan-2015	11	1
Feb-2015	9	5
Mar-2015	8	3
Apr-2015	11	3
May-2015	11	2
Jun-2015	14	5
Jul-2015	5	3
Aug-2015	10	3

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Sep-2015	12	5
Oct-2015	9	5
Nov-2015	7	2
Dec-2015	15	3
Jan-2016	11	1
Feb-2016	15	2
Mar-2016	10	3
Apr-2016	9	9
May-2016	10	3
Jun-2016	13	5
Jul-2016	7	5
Aug-2016	16	2
Sep-2016	15	2
Oct-2016	18	2
Nov-2016	14	2
Dec-2016	10	
Jan-2017	12	6
Feb-2017	12	3
Mar-2017	15	6
Apr-2017	7	2
May-2017	23	8
Jun-2017	19	5
Jul-2017	22	2
Aug-2017	14	5
Sep-2017	15	3
Oct-2017	8	2
Nov-2017	19	2
Dec-2017	12	
Jan-2018	8	
Feb-2018	12	1
Mar-2018	19	3
Apr-2018	18	2
May-2018	13	
Jun-2018	9	1
Jul-2018	16	1
Aug-2018	14	2
Sep-2018	11	1
Oct-2018	20	3
Nov-2018	17	2
Dec-2018	12	4
Jan-2019	14	2
Feb-2019	13	
Mar-2019	21	1
Apr-2019	15	
May-2019	22	7
Jun-2019	16	1
Jul-2019	16	4
Aug-2019	15	2
Sep-2019	20	3

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Oct-2019	17	1
Nov-2019	11	6
Dec-2019	17	4
Jan-2020	15	4
Feb-2020	28	
Mar-2020	22	4
Apr-2020	21	7
May-2020	13	4
Jun-2020	37	3
Jul-2020	29	6
Aug-2020	33	3
Sep-2020	24	2
Oct-2020	23	5
Nov-2020	18	6
Dec-2020	22	9
Jan-2021	21	2
Feb-2021	32	4
Mar-2021	17	2
Apr-2021	28	2
May-2021	26	5
Jun-2021	25	3
Jul-2021	23	1
Aug-2021	21	1
Sep-2021	31	2
Oct-2021	16	1
Nov-2021	17	3
Dec-2021	12	4
Jan-2022	28	3
Feb-2022	23	6
Mar-2022	24	2
Apr-2022	23	2
May-2022	30	
Jun-2022	31	7

3. Please supply an annual breakdown from 2017 to 2021 of the ages of suspects charged or summons for serious knife crimes, using the following breakdowns:

- a) Under 16
- b) 16-18
- c) 19-25
- d) 25-34
- e) 35+

Please supply an annual breakdown from 2017 to 2021 of the ages of victims of serious knife crime, using the following breakdowns:

- a) Under 16

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- b) 16-18
- c) 19-25
- d) 25-34
- e) 35+

Reported Age (suspect)	Disposal Year					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Under 16	3	1	4	10	3	3
16-18	13	2	14	10	5	3
19-25	12	7	8	19	9	6
26-34	26	13	17	35	19	15
35+	9	8	13	13	9	11

Reported Age (victim)	Reported Year					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Under 16	20	23	17	38	40	23
16-18	26	14	32	32	38	26
19-25	36	38	33	52	41	28
26-34	35	36	39	63	59	22
35+	64	50	67	95	90	52

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,

Abigail Standidge

Phone: 01722 547081

Email: abigail.standidge@wiltshire.police.uk

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



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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

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 to contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

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