

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

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

Date: 12/10/2022

Our ref: FOI 2022/711

Reply contact name is:

Dear

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/09/2022 concerning sex offenders.

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 * at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

- How many sex offenders did your force have registered living in the force area in each of the past three financial years?
- Of those sex offenders who were required to notify the police force of all foreign travel and their return to the UK, how many did inform your force of all foreign travel and their return to the UK and how many also failed to do so, in each of the past three financial years?
- How many sex offenders has your force recorded as having failed to return to the UK in each of the past three financial years?
- How many sex offenders have notified the force when they were living in a household with a child under the age of 18 and how many failed to do so, in each of the past three financial years?
- How many sex offenders have made a notification to your force that they have changed their identity through name change in each of the past three financial years and how many did the force discover retrospectively had changed their identity through name change without first informing the force in each of the past three financial years?
- How many offences have been committed by sex offenders within your police force area of failure to comply with the notification requirement in each of the past three financial years?
- How many registered sex offenders failed to make annual contact with police stations within your police force area in each of the past three financial years (please provide the number of sex offenders failing to make annual contact and the number of failures for each financial year)?



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

- How long does it take for a registered sex offender to be classed as “missing” from your police force area?
- How many registered sex offenders went missing from your police force area in each of the past three financial years?

Response

Please see the below table:

1 Apr 21-31 Mar 22	1 Apr 20-31 Mar 21	1 Apr 19-31 Mar 20	Notes:
741	715	707	Offenders in the community
47	26	116	Offenders who informed foreign travel
1	2	0	Offenders who failed to notify foreign travel
0	0	0	Offenders who failed to return to UK
101	101	111	Offenders who informed residency with a child
2	7	No data available	Offenders who failed to inform residency with a child
11	7	7	Offenders who informed change of name
No data available	No data available	No data available	Offenders who failed to inform change of name
37	29	No data available	Offenders who have failed to comply with notification requirements (includes periodic notifications)
10	3	No data available	Offenders failing to notify periodic
See below			How long does it take to a registered sex offender to be classed as 'missing'
5 recorded (Mar 22)	6 recorded (Mar 21)	6 recorded (Mar 20)	How many RSO's went missing in past 3 financial years.

With regards to questions 3 and 9:

'In relation to the number of registered sexual offenders whose whereabouts are unknown, Wiltshire police, has as of the date of your request 0 RSOs currently recorded as wanted because their whereabouts are unknown. This total is only valid for the date in question because the information is dynamic and will change as arrests are made or new cases come to light through proactive intelligence led policing or routine visits to registered offenders'.

With regards to question 8:

Registered Sex Offenders are treated in line with national approved professional practice for missing persons, i.e. no different to any other person who is deemed to be missing

This is defined as follows:

“Anyone whose whereabouts cannot be established will be considered missing until located and their wellbeing or otherwise confirmed”

This includes making expedient enquiries to locate persons who have absconded from court proceedings, and who may be found guilty and therefore become registered in their absence, i.e. ‘wanted’ persons

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