



WILTSHIRE POLICE

Force Disclosure Unit

Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 5th October 2022

Ref: FOI 2022/751

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23rd September 2022 concerning road traffic accidents/incidents have been recorded on the 30mph section of the B4040.

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:

- In the last 12 months (1 September 2021 to 31st Aug 2022), how many road traffic accidents/incidents have been recorded on the 30mph section of the B4040, for clarity the section between Google Maps grid ref 51°36'42.0"N 1°57'35.5"W and 51°36'59.3"N 1°56'59.3"W
- In the last 12 months (1 September 2021 to 31st Aug 2022), how many road traffic safety concerns/incidents have been reported on the 30mph section of the B4040, for clarity the section between Google Maps grid ref 51°36'42.0"N 1°57'35.5"W and 51°36'59.3"N 1°56'59.3"W
- In the last 12 months (1 September 2021 to 31st Aug 2022), how many times have there been active speed enforcement vehicles (for example speed camera vans) on the 30mph section of the B4040, for clarity the section between Google Maps grid ref 51°36'42.0"N 1°57'35.5"W and 51°36'59.3"N 1°56'59.3"W

Clarification was sought on 27/09/22 in respect of what was meant by "road traffic safety concerns" for question 2, and the following clarification was received on 28/09/22:

Proud to serve and protect our communities

www.wiltshire.police.uk | [Facebook/wiltshirepolice](https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice) | [Twitter/@wiltshirepolice](https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice) | [LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wiltshirepolice)

I would expect all road traffic accidents to be recorded as a matter of routine, this is Question 1 of my FOI.

I also expect there maybe occasion's when, for example, a member of the public either calls 111, emails the police or files a report via the police website. Question 2 refers to these reports and in particular ones relating to road safety matter's.

Our response:

The information that you are requesting (namely question 2) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. This is because based on the clarification provided, in order to ascertain the number of online reports, emails and 111 calls made to the force that specifically relate to road traffic safety concerns/incidents that have been reported on the 30mph section of the B4040; this would involve us having to manually peruse through approximately 2,000 online reports and over 7,000 calls (which contain a mixture of 111 and 999 calls that are road related, RTC damage related and relate to RTC death/injury) that have been made to the force over the time period requested.

As you can appreciate, sifting through this amount of information would be an incredibly exhaustive task which would undoubtedly exceed the time/cost limits we have to furnish an FOI request within. Therefore, 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 –

Question 1:

There has been 1 injury collision (Nov 2021) on the stretch of road requested.

However, please note that the dates that have been searched on are: 01/03/2021 – 28/02/2022 as this is the most recent 12 months our Justice Traffic team can access, due to February 2022 being the last month inputted onto the system due to a backlog.

This data is injury collisions only.

Question 3:

Between those area coordinates, there have been 4 active sessions between the time frames requested.

Ordinarily under our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request in respect of question 2 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,

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

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.

Proud to serve and protect our communities

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