



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

Date: 16th November 2022

Ref: FOI 2022/775

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 1st October 2022 concerning pay for Officers who have been suspended. My apologies for the delay in responding to you.

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 after having consulted our Professional Standards Department – I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Please confirm how much has been spent in paying salaries of officers who were suspended on paid leave later:

a.) dismissed from the force

or

b.) found guilty of misconduct after they resigned/retired from the force?

Please provide this information for the past five financial years (up to the 2021/2022 financial year).

Please break this information down by year.

Please also break this down by rank of officer, if this is possible.

Clarification was sought from the applicant on 09/11/22 with regards to what they're wanting a yearly breakdown for specifically, and the applicant stated the following:

The applicant confirmed over a telephone conversation that they require how much money the officers were paid across each tax year.

Our response:

Due to the level of detail you require, in particular details of the monies each officer had received broken down by tax year, their rank and whether they were dismissed from the force or retired/resigned – your request is exempt; as to provide you with these details would provide you that individual's personal information with which you are not entitled to under the Act. This would result in a breach of the Data Protection Principles set out in Section 34 of the Data Protection Act 2018 as well as Article 5 of the GDPR and is therefore, exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and therefore, there are no requirements for any consideration of potential harm or public interest in its application.

However, to assist you as best I can, but maintain the rights and entitlements of those individuals; I am prepared to disclose the following data:

There were two officers, and the officers were paid the combined following sum over the course of their suspension periods: £142,544.45.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide 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. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemption applied:

Section 40(2) – Personal Information

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.

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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