

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.uk

disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by email

Date: 23rd November 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 927

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21st November 2022 concerning National Statistics for Child on-line Safety.

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:

I am a safeguarding practitioner in Wiltshire & BaNES and am conducting some research for an academic paper looking at child online safety.

I am looking for national statistics for rates of online abuse in terms of Child grooming, suicides, peer on peer abuse/bullying or any other related statistics.

Our response:

No Information Held.

There is no obligation on an Authority to provide an explanation as to why information is not held, however under our Section 16 duty to be as helpful as possible to an applicant, I think it would be helpful for me to provide you with the following clarification :-

- The FOI process allows an applicant access to information that is held by a specific Authority – it does not cover the provision for National Data, only that which is held by the specific Authority that receives the FOI request.



- Wiltshire Police generally record crimes in accordance with the latest Home Office Crime Recording guidelines. Whilst we record Grooming offences we do not specifically record information in relation to Suicides or Peer-on-peer Abuse or Bullying (both of which would likely be recorded under the generic category of Violence Against the Person offences).
- Whilst we do collate and report information to Avon & Somerset Police in respect of Child Exploitation crimes and information this is not for the purposes of any kind of National Reporting mechanism that we are aware of at Wiltshire Police.
- Wiltshire Police do not supply data or statistics (eg ADR's – Annual Data Returns) for National Reporting purposes for any of the specific topics you mention in your request.
- National Crime Statistics can be found at the following ONS website :-
www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales
- We would recommend that you either undertake free-text searches on the internet for the information you require, or contact specific Children's Charities directly, in case they hold specific information in respect of Suicides, Peer-to-peer abuse and bullying and/or child grooming.

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