

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

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

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 28th November 2022

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2022 / 941

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27th November 2022 concerning Homelessness.

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 – having consulted our Business Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

As per the Freedom of Information Act, how many people have you arrested relating to homelessness in the last five full financial years?

Please provide a response as follows

2017-18 - insert number

2018-19 - insert number

2019-20 - insert number

2020-21 - insert number

2021-22 - insert number

Our response:

Wiltshire Police have not arrested anyone for being homeless in the last 5 years.

It is not a crime for a person to be homeless.



Please Note

Wiltshire Police record crime in accordance with Home Office crime recording principles, with all crimes being recorded under designated crime recording codes.

Whilst our crime recording systems are sophisticated and we have a number of specific fields in which we record specific information related to crimes (such as an individuals' ethnicity / gender, the type of business premises where an incident occurred, the x and y coordinates of an offence location, etc), we do not have a separate field in which we record whether anyone involved in an offence is a homeless person.

If you were interested in knowing the volumes or details of any offences that were either perpetrated by or related in some way to an individual that is homeless, then we would have to access and manually read the crime log for each and every crime that has been recorded on our database for the time period you require.

Given that Wiltshire Police record in excess of 40,000 individual crimes in any given calendar year, to undertake a search of that nature – even for 1 calendar year – would inevitably invoke an exemption on Section 12 grounds (Time-Cost).

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



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