

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date 19th January 2023

Our ref FOI 2022/1003

Dear ***,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 20th December 2022 concerning dip sampling records relating to use of body worn video cameras.

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 our Professional Standards Unit, Force Policy Office and our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

1/ All dip sampling records relating to use of body worn video cameras by the force from January 1st 2019 up to the point this response is answered. Please state how big the sample was and what the dip sample showed, including all statistics. If the dip sampling showed what type of incidents officers had failed to activate BWV for, or had mis-used BWV during, please provide that information. Please include any examples shared during the dip sample which detail failures relating to the use of BWV, and the dates of the samples.

2/ All investigations, reports or scrutiny into the adherence, success or mis-use of the force's use of body worn video from January 1st 2019 up to the point this response is answered. Please include any investigations concerning technical problems relating to the body worn video cameras and the storage of footage.

3/ The number of a) individual occasions, and b) individual officers, found to have not activated body worn video when force policy mandates they should have in 2022. If known, please also state the most number of times an officer has been found to have not activated BWV this year. If these statistics are not collected, please say so.

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4/ Please share the current disciplinary policy concerning officers found not to have used body worn video correctly. If there is no disciplinary consequence to not using BWV correctly, please say so.

Response:

Questions 1 – 3: Wiltshire Police have dip sampled Stop Search incidents, uses of force, such as taser and PAVA so that a group of volunteers from the community can act as our critical friend by giving opinions and views. During Stop Search, and other use of force incidents, BWV cameras should be utilised. Information, minutes and reports, including some statistics, relating to these meetings can be found on the external Scrutiny Panel website, using the following link: <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/police-forces/wiltshire-police/areas/about-us/about-us/scrutiny-panels/use-of-force-scrutiny-panel/> During the meetings, panel members are shown BWV footage alongside the written information from the incidents.

The incidents that we show to the external panel are also shown to an internal panel and the results, with reference to whether the use of force has been deemed reasonable by the members of the panel, can be found in the reports on the above website. All other use of force occurrences are scrutinised by an internal panel where necessary and this will include viewing BWV footage.

Please note we hold no further information relating to your request other than what has been published on our website.

Question 4: No Information Held – Wiltshire Police do not have a disciplinary policy concerning officers found not to have used body worn video correctly. The only time an officer found not to have used body worn video correctly would result in a disciplinary is if that use breached the standards of professional behaviour. Any officer found not to have used body worn video correctly, not breaching the standards of professional behaviour, would be dealt with as a training issue and not as a disciplinary.

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.

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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

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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/>