

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

[www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)[disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 24th January 2023

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2023 / 129

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 concerning Spiking Offences.

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 (and Our Response) :**

Please can you provide the following information for the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022:

- The number of spiking by injection crimes logged by the force in each year
  - Of these, what was the gender breakdown of victims
  - How many had a type 1 outcome (“Charge / Summons”)
  - How many had a type 14 outcome (“Evidential difficulties: suspect not identified; victim does not support further action”)
  - How many had a type 15 outcome (Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim supports action”)
  - How many had a type 16 outcome (“Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim does not support further action”)
  - How many have not yet been assigned an outcome.

**The number of spiking by injection crimes that Wiltshire Police have recorded (together with their outcomes) are shown in the table below.**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

| Spiking by Injection |        |              |                |           |            |            |            |                  |
|----------------------|--------|--------------|----------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| Reported Year        | Crimes | Male Victims | Female Victims | Outcome 1 | Outcome 14 | Outcome 15 | Outcome 16 | Cases still open |
| 2019                 | 1      | 1            | -              | -         | -          | -          | -          | -                |
| 2020                 | 2      | -            | 2              | -         | -          | 1          | 1          | -                |
| 2021                 | 1      | 1            | -              | -         | -          | -          | -          | -                |
| 2022                 | 5      | -            | 5              | -         | -          | -          | -          | -                |

- The number of drink spiking crimes logged by the force in each year
  - Of these, what was the gender breakdown of victims
  - How many had a type 1 outcome ("Charge / Summons")
  - How many had a type 14 outcome ("Evidential difficulties: suspect not identified; victim does not support further action")
  - How many had a type 15 outcome (Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim supports action")
  - How many had a type 16 outcome ("Evidential difficulties: suspect identified; victim does not support further action")
  - How many have not yet been assigned an outcome.

**The number of drink spiking crimes that Wiltshire Police have recorded (together with their outcomes) are shown in the table below.**

**Where the total number of victims by gender does not equal the total crimes in any given year, it is because the gender has not been recorded on our system(s).**

| Drink Spiking |        |              |                |           |            |            |            |                  |
|---------------|--------|--------------|----------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| Reported Year | Crimes | Male Victims | Female Victims | Outcome 1 | Outcome 14 | Outcome 15 | Outcome 16 | Cases still open |
| 2019          | 0      | -            | -              | -         | -          | -          | -          | -                |
| 2020          | 1      |              | 1              | -         | -          | -          | -          | -                |
| 2021          | 21     | 4            | 15             | -         | 2          | 1          | -          | -                |
| 2022          | 34     | 6            | 26             | -         | 1          | 2          | 1          | 1                |

**Please note:**

It needs to be noted that Spiking or Drink Spiking are not specific offences in their own right.

The information provided above are those offences that have been recorded against any of the following Home Office Crime Codes :-

- 8/2 Cause administer poison with intent to injure / aggrieve / annoy
- 88/5 Administering a substance with intent (S61, SOA 2003)
- 5/10 Administering poison so as to endanger life

5/24 Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm or intimidate

Incidents of drink and or needle spiking often end up getting recorded as more serious offences such as Rape, Sexual Assault , Assault, Theft and so on, with the administering of a substance essentially being only part of the MO of it.

Whilst our crime recording systems are quite sophisticated we do not have separate field in which we record specifically whether a spiking or needle spiking has played any part in any offence.

The only way to identify this would be to review each and every crime log to determine whether the administering of a substance by spiking or needle will have played a part or not. Given that Wiltshire Police record something in the region of 40,000 crimes in any given calendar year, undertaking that exercise would inevitably invoke a Section 12 (time-cost) exemption under the FOIA.

However, under our Section 16 obligation to be as helpful as possible to an applicant I would suggest you also peruse the “Published Items” section of the Wiltshire Police website, where we have started to post all of our FOI responses. The link below will take you to this section of the website and you can search for “spike” or “spiking” and it will list all previous FOI responses of a similar nature to give you additional context :-

[www.wiltshire.police.uk/foi-ai/af/accessing-information/published-items/](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/foi-ai/af/accessing-information/published-items/)

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](mailto: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](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)