

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date 27th February

Our ref **FOI 2023/193**

Dear ****,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 7th February concerning Strategy or policy to unauthorised encampments, implementation, and prosecutions under part 4 the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act.

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 the Force Policy Officer, Our CPT Chief Inspector, and our Sgt of Operations at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

- 1) In light of section 4 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts (P.C.S.C) Act, has a new strategy or policy been drafted by your force in relation to Unauthorised Encampments.? If so, is this document accessible to the public?
- 2) Has your force implemented section 4 of the P.C.S.C Act? If so in what capacity i.e., direction to leave, confiscation of vehicle and or arrest.
- 3) Have there been any prosecutions in your area under section 4 of the P.C.S.C Act?

Response:

We assume you don't mean section 4 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 as that section relates to the Police Federation. We believe you mean Part 4 (that's sections 83 to 85) as these relate to unauthorised encampments.

Question 1: No Information Held (we haven't got a policy or strategy on Unauthorised Encampments – just the NPCC Guide which would have to be requested from the NPCC).

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Question 2: **No Information Held.**

Question 3: **No Information Held.**

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

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

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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
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

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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/>