



**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 14th March 2023

Our Ref FOI 2023/032

I write in connection with your request for information dated 8th January 2023, concerning fleet allocation.

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 Fleet department at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

1. Please provide a list of your current fleet as of January 2023
2. Please provide a list of your callsigns and allocations of your fleet
3. If applicable, please provide the roof codes for your fleet

Our response:

I have considered your request and I am able to provide a partial response. Some of the information relevant to this request is exempt by virtue of Section 31(1)(a)(b) - Law Enforcement.

Section 31 is a qualified prejudice-based exemption and therefore requires Wiltshire Police to establish the harm in disclosure, along with the public interest favouring and against disclosure.

Please see below for information that can be disclosed. This will include marked fleet vehicles and may include some unmarked vehicles, where disclosure would not cause any harm (i.e. vehicles used for scientific services, pool vehicles etc).

Please note: Details regarding tactical marked vehicles (i.e. ARVs); some unmarked or covert vehicles; call signs and roof codes are exempt from disclosure. Please see the below harm and public interest tests.

Harm test

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Although every effort should be made to release information under the Freedom of Information Act, to disclose allocations of fleet, roof codes and details of ARVs or covert vehicles used by Wiltshire Police would prejudice our ability to effectively prevent and detect crime. Although there is public interest in the transparency of policing, this is countered by the need to protect future law enforcement conducted by Wiltshire Police. Furthermore, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police tactics and the ability to carry out our duties effectively.

Additionally, disclosing callsigns could enable an offender to act with a degree of authenticity should they obtain a police radio, this could dangerously impact an operation and cause disruption over the network.

Factors favouring disclosure

The disclosure of this information would lead to a better-informed public and promote trust by demonstrating openness, transparency and accountability.

Factors against disclosure

Disclosing this information would provide to the world, not just the requester, covert and sensitive information surrounding Wiltshire police's fleet and its capability. This would place our law enforcement and investigative ability into jeopardy and by providing covert information into the public domain would undermine the very purpose of them.

Furthermore, disclosing this information into the public domain would highlight that Wiltshire Police does not take the security and integrity of law enforcement seriously. This would allow criminals to be able to courtier avoid detection.

Balance test

The Police service is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Because of this, Wiltshire Police will not divulge any information if to do so would prejudice our law enforcement capabilities and in turn lead to more victims of crime and offenders not being brought to justice. The public interest lies in favour of non-disclosure in relation to covert information to ensure that we are able to carry out our duties.

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Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemptions applied:

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement

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

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.

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www.wiltshire.police.uk | [Facebook/wiltshirepolice](https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice) | [Twitter/@wiltshirepolice](https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice) | [LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wiltshirepolice)



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

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www.wiltshire.police.uk | Facebook/wiltshirepolice | Twitter/@wiltshirepolice | LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice

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 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

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 to contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

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