

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: June 12, 2023

Our ref: FOI 2023/218

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13th February 2023 concerning police dogs.

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 Dog Unit and Finance Department at Wiltshire Police.

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

You Wrote:

How many police dogs were there in the force's dog unit for each of the last ten calendar years (2012-2022), broken down by job type. (eg. General purpose/ explosive detection)

Please list the main breeds used in the totals in question 1. Please list the most commonly used breeds first.

How many full time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc) were working in the force's dog unit for each of the years in the same period.

What was the force's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit.

Does the force have its own dog breeding unit?

Response:

Question One

2012 = 11 General Purpose, 6 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2013 = 13 General Purpose, 6 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2014 = 13 General Purpose, 6 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2015 = 13 General Purpose, 6 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2016 = 13 General Purpose, 5 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2017 = 13 General Purpose, 5 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2018 = 13 General Purpose, 7 Drugs and 2 Explosive
2019 = 13 General Purpose, 7 Drugs, 2 Explosive and 2 Digital
2020 = 13 General Purpose, 7 Drugs, 2 Explosive and 2 Digital
2021 = 13 General Purpose, 7 Drugs, 2 Explosive and 2 Digital
2022 = 13 General Purpose, 7 Drugs, 2 Explosive and 2 Digital

Question Two

German Shepherd
Malinois
Springer Spaniel
Sprocker
Labrador
Dutch Herder
German Shepherd / Malinois Cros

Question Three

2012 – 2022 = 1 Police Staff, 1 Sergeant and 12 Police Constables

Question Four

2012/2013 = £103,064,116 and £895,154
2013/2014 = £106,693,578 and £885,768
2014/2015 = £105,098,919 and £912,055
2015/2016 = £103,705,718 and £795,374
2016/2017 = £107,050,908 and £764,973
2017/2018 = £107,087,051 and £760,888
2018/2019 = £110,197,000 and £809,709
2019/2020 = £118,087,000 and £958,998
2020/2021 = £125,524,174 and £958,229
2021/2022 = £134,027,000 and £931,874
2022/2023 = £141,429,192 and £1,008,387

Please note that these budgets are for Financial Year (April – March) and as 1st April each year

Question Five

No

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.

Proud to serve and protect our communities

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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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

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