



WILTSHIRE POLICE

XXXXXXXX

By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 20th March 2023

Our Ref FOI 2023-314

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12th March 2023, concerning Clare's Law, Right to Ask / Right to Know.

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 DVDS Researcher at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote and our response:

I am writing to you for the following information relating to Clare's Law - the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme.

Would it be possible to disclose the following information - for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022:

1. How many requests for a disclosure were made to your force under the "Right to Ask" during the years stated above? Can you please include the gender of the person making the request if it was given?

Please note: Gender data is not available as this is not collected.

2014	45
2015	57
2016	79
2017	92
2018	121
2019	234
2020	345
2021	450

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2. Can you please break down as a percentage – the time it took to process the 'Right to Ask' disclosure requests: : a) 0-20 days, b) 21-35 days and c) 36+ days

Please note: Wiltshire Police are only able to check this data from 2020, and therefore the information is as follows.

2020	a) 60%	b) 23%	c) 17%
2021	a) 87%	b) 9%	c) 4%
2022	a) 93%	b) 6%	c) 1%

There is not a requirement for a Public Authority to create data to furnish a request for information, where this data is not already held. This information was not previously held, however, the DVDS Researcher has worked this out as a gesture of goodwill.

3. Can you please provide me with the longest period of time it took to process a 'Right to Ask' application (from request to disclosure / outcome) during the years stated above?

Please note: Wiltshire Police are only able to check this data from 2020, and therefore the information is as follows.

2020 – 72 days

2021 – 63 days

2022 – 51 days

4. How many requests for disclosures were made to your force under the under 'Right to Know' during this time period? Can you please reveal which gender the right to know request relates to?

Please note:

- ❖ An individual cannot make a request for a 'Right to Know' disclosure. This is an application triggered by the Force due to indirect information received. The 'Right to Know' is considered if it is identified from Police checks that a current or ex-partner has a record of violent or abusive behaviour, and that the individual who submitted an application under the 'Right to Ask' umbrella may be at risk. It is at that point that a decision may be made to proactively share information with the applicant.
- ❖ Gender data is not available as this is not collected.

2014	86
2015	122
2016	169
2017	170
2018	184
2019	209
2020	186
2021	204
2022	160

5. Can you please break down as a percentage – the time it took process these 'Right to Know' disclosure requests: : a) 0-20 days, b) 21-35 days and c) 36+ days

Please note: Wiltshire Police are only able to check this data from 2020, and therefore the information is as follows.

2020	a) 67%	b) 27%	c) 6%
2021	a) 81%	b) 12%	c) 7%
2022	a) 94%	b) 5%	c) 1%

There is not a requirement for a Public Authority to create data to furnish a request for information, where this data is not already held. This information was not previously held, however, the DVDS Researcher has worked this out as a gesture of goodwill.

6. Can you please provide me with the longest period of time it took to process a 'Right to Know' application (from request to disclosure / outcome) during the years stated above?

Please note: Wiltshire Police are only able to check this data from 2020, and therefore the information is as follows.

2020 – 67 days

2021 – 54 days

2022 – 45 days

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,

Abigail Standidge

Phone: 01722 547081

Email: abigail.standidge@wiltshire.police.uk

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



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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 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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