



Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date

Our ref **FOI 2023/413**

Dear ,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 9th April concerning cases of modern slavery and human trafficking.

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 Business Intelligence Unit at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

Please provide the number of cases of modern slavery and human trafficking reported to the force between January 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022. Please disaggregate data according to the following information:

- The crime outcome of the offences (for example, this includes but is not limited to outcomes such as 'cautioned', 'charged/summonsed', Evidential difficulties (victim does not support investigation), no suspect identified, 'Not in public interest (police)', 'Not in public interest (CPS)' and any other outcomes recorded),
- The age of victims recorded, either adult (18 years or older) or child (17 years old or younger).

Our response:

There were 90 reports of modern slavery and human trafficking in 2022.

Under 18 – 34

Over 18 – 40

Remainder unrecorded age of victim.

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Outcomes:

Other incident non crime – 12

Ongoing – 22

Cancelled/transferred to other agency – 16

Investigation complete no suspect identified – 21

Victim declines/withdraws support – named suspect identified – 1

Named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties – 7

Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender – 10

Charged – 1

Wiltshire Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information regarding any exempt body as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemption: Section 23(5) Information Supplied by, or concerning Security Bodies.

Section 23 is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in this case. No inference should be taken as to whether any other information that would meet your request does or does not exist.

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.

Exemption applied: Section 23(5) Information Supplied by, or concerning certain Security Bodies

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,

Millie Rumley

Force Disclosure Decision Maker

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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

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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

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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/>