

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via email



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date 03/05/2023

Our ref **FOI 2023/480**

Reply contact name is:

Dear

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26/04/2023 concerning road rage, car theft & vehicles without insurance.

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, justice traffic and vehicle recovery teams at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

Could we please have information and statistics on:

Vehicles without insurance

- Total number of arrests for not having valid insurance in 2022
- Total number of convictions for not having valid insurance in 2022
- Total number of cars impounded for being driven without valid insurance in 2022
- All of the above for 2021 (so we can see if there has been a rise or fall in numbers)

Road Rage

- Road rage incidents reported in 2022 and 2021

Car Theft

- Car theft incidents reported in 2022 and 2021, including information on car type/model

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Response

Please find the details of notices issued (Conditional Offers of Fixed Penalty Notices – COFPN) and cases that have been input into niche for court process. Wiltshire police are unable to confirm the number of convictions without reviewing each case individually and these could then be appealed – I would suggest that you make an approach to HMCTS for this information as they would hold these records. (Please see the following link)

[HM Courts & Tribunals Service - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-courts-and-tribunals)

Notice Issued between 01/01/2021 00:00:00 and 01/01/2022 00:00:00

Offence Code	Offence Description	Number of Notices Issued	Niche Offences
RT88191	Use a motor vehicle on a road / public place without third party insurance	402	276
	Total	402	276
Total		402	276

Notice Issued between 01/01/2022 00:00:00 and 01/01/2023 00:00:00

Offence Code	Offence Description	Number of Notices Issued	Niche Offences
RT88191	Use a motor vehicle on a road / public place without third party insurance	430	477
	Total	430	477
Total		430	477

Arrests	Year	2021	2022	Grand Total
Aid / abet the use of a motor vehicle without insurance			1	1
Use a motor vehicle on a road / public place without third party insurance		138	137	275
Grand Total		138	138	276
Charged	Year	2021	2022	Grand Total
Aid / abet the use of a motor vehicle without insurance			1	1
Use a motor vehicle on a road / public place without third party insurance		92	88	180
Grand Total		92	89	181

Vehicle's seized for no insurance are as follows:

2021 – 792

2022 – 884

As there is no offence of “road rage” there is no information held in respect of this part of your request. Such incidents may be recorded as violence against the person, public order offences, anti-social behaviour etc. Please see the following exemption, which also applied to the information regarding car thefts that you have also requested.

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The type of information you require is not stored in a way which allows for easy retrieval. When recording a crime, Wiltshire Police do not have a specific field in which to indicate that the incident was related to 'road rage' as there is no offence of Road Rage. There is also no specific field to indicate the type and model of the vehicles involved in theft. To locate and extract this information, we would need to manually peruse all relevant crime reports within the timeframe given. Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it. Therefore the whole of the request falls under the exemption of section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Ordinarily under our Section 16 obligation to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you of a way to refine your request to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties in obtaining the requested information, as outlined above, I cannot think of a way in which this could be achieved.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide such 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.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 12: Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

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.

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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/>