

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXXXX
By email

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

Date 15th May 2023

Our Ref FOI 2023-536

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14th May 2023, concerning sexual offences.

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 department at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information on this force's statistics concerning sexual offences reported to police. Please may you provide me with:

The number of sexual offences recorded by this force each year from 2016 to 2021 inclusive, broken down by outcome (NFA, under investigation, unable to prosecute, community order, charge/summons etc) and, if possible, how many of the offences each year resulted in a conviction.

For the avoidance of doubt, by sexual offence I mean all types of sexual offences committed against both adults and children,

Our response:

Please note: Wiltshire Police do not hold conviction data. Under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you to contact the Courts for this information.

Please see below table for number of sexual offences, broken down by outcome.

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Detection Status	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1: Charged	3	4	36	39	43	59
1: Summoned/postal requisition	1	44	82	61	66	89
1. Charged/summonsed	118	78	13			
1A: Alternate offence charged		2	6	5	10	6
1A: Alternate offence summonsed/postal requisition	5	8	16	9	9	17
1A. Suspect charged with an alternative offence	2	4	3			
2: Youth conditional caution			3	2	4	1
2. Caution-youths	9	5				
2A: Alternate offence youth conditional caution			1	2		
3: Adult caution				6	3	1
3. Caution-adults	11	8	3			
3A: Alternate offence adult caution		1	1	1	1	1
4: TIC (taken into consideration)	2					
5: Offender has died	2	4	3	3	8	
8: Community resolution			2			
8: Youth restorative disposal			2	1		3
9: CPS - prosecution not in public interest	4	2	1			
10: Police - formal action not in public interest	3		2			
11: Named suspect below age of criminal responsibility	16	16	21	14	13	21
12: Named suspect too ill to prosecute	14	24	21	18	30	33
13: Named suspect but victim/key witness deceased or too ill	1	3		1	6	5
14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	55	62	78	60	73	107
15: CPS - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	5	28	93	61	36	37
15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	9	95	498	496	476	483
15. Named suspect ID-victim supports but ED	572	582	50			
16: Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified	340	398	447	413	346	404
17: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit expired	1	1				
18: Investigation complete no suspect identified	203	225	222	219	215	231
20: Other body/agency has investigation primacy	56	63	79	56	65	86
21: Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest		8	32	52	24	12
Pending outcome	14	35	9	14	26	94

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



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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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