

**Police Headquarters**

London Road

DEVIZES

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.ukDate: 31st May 2023**Our ref: 2023/540**

Reply contact name:

Dear

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15th May 2023 concerning arrests of under 18s.

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 at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

How many children under the age of 18 were arrested on suspicion of possession of an article with blade or point in a public place in the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 respectively?

Please provide a breakdown showing the number of arrests for each age group for each year (e.g. four suspects aged 14; seven suspects aged 15, etc.)

How many children under the age of 18 were subsequently charged with the offence of Possession of an article with blade or point in a public place for each of the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022?

Response:

Please see below tables.

Arrests		Reported age					
Reported Year	Offence Description	12	13	14	15	16	17
2018	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	1	1	1	2	5	4
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	0	0	0	0	1	1
2019	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	0	0	5	6	9	8
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	0	3	2	2	0	1
2020	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	1	1	2	5	6	7
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	1	0	1	0	1	1
2021	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	0	0	5	6	7	5
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	0	0	0	0	1	0
2022	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	1	0	6	6	8	10
	Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article in a public place	0	1	2	1	0	0

Charged		Reported age					
Reported Year	Offence Description	12	13	14	15	16	17
2018	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	1	0	1	2	1	1
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	0	0	0	0	0	1
2019	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	0	0	2	4	8	7
	Threaten a person with a blade/sharply pointed article in a public place	0	2	0	0	0	0
2020	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	1	1	1	3	2	3
2021	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	0	0	3	3	5	5
2022	Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	0	0	3	4	0	6

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,

Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Proud to serve and protect our communities