



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

Date 15th June 2023

Our ref **FOI 2023/584**

Dear ****,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 31st May concerning Dog Attacks.

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/Our Response:

How many dog attacks have been recorded in your police force area in the last five years for which data is available? If possible, please provide data broken down by year. I don't mind if the data is broken down by calendar year, financial year, or other 12-month reporting period.

Offence Description	In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog		Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	
	Crimes	Non-Crime Incidents	Crimes	Non-Crime Incidents
2018	255	15		
2019	282	20		
2020	293	16		
2021	355	23	0	1
2022	141	12	252	32

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2023			164	12	to 11/6/23
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How many of the dog attacks in the last five years for which you have data have involved injury to a person or persons? If possible, please provide data broken down by year. I don't mind if the data is broken down by calendar year, financial year, or other 12-month reporting period.

Please note - Victim injury is a non-mandatory field and open to error.

	Victim injury			
Offence	None	Serious	Slight	Grand Total
2018	11	10	249	270
In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog	11	10	249	270
2019	9	4	289	302
In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog	9	4	289	302
2020	9	7	293	309
In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog	9	7	293	309
2021	63	8	308	379
In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog	62	8	308	378
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	1			1
2022	120	11	306	437
In charge of dog out of control in ANY place injuring any person or assistance dog	32	2	119	153
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	88	9	187	284
2023	73		103	176
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	73		103	176
Grand Total	285	40	1548	1873

How many deaths have been recorded in your police force area from dog attacks in the last five years for which data is available? If possible, please provide data broken down by year. I don't mind if the data is broken down by calendar year, financial year, or other 12-month reporting period.

None.

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How many arrests has your police force made for incidents involving dog attacks in the last five years for which data is available? If possible, please provide data broken down by year. I don't mind if the data is broken down by calendar year, financial year, or other 12-month reporting period.

Reported Year	Arrested
2018	3
2019	1
2020	4
2022	2

Further email from applicant:

After discussions with other forces, I am aware that the request as currently drafted might engage the time exemption. If that is your assessment, please be aware that I would be willing to refine my request as follows:

1 - Provide all recorded crimes under HOCR 008/21 - Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control injuring any person or assistance dog. Other forces have said their system shows these offences began recording at the end of 2018, so to provide full yearly data the refinement would be to provide the last 4 years from 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2022.

2 - Provide all recorded outcomes for these crimes.

(Answers not necessary as we have answered all questions listed in initial request.)

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

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/>