



WILTSHIRE POLICE

Force Disclosure Unit

Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 16th October 2023

Ref: FOI 2023/948

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30th September 2023 concerning medicinal cannabis.

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.

Your request for information has now been considered and after having consulted our Force Policy Officer and our Learning & Development team – I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote & our response:

Please, can you provide me with:-

- Legislation in regard to medicinal cannabis.

Information relating to legislation with regards to medicinal cannabis can be found readily available in the public domain and is therefore exempt under Section 21 – Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means.

Please refer to the following links below which will provide you with the information you require:

The applicable legislation can be found on the Government website. For example:

- o [Medicinal cannabis: information and resources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medicinal-cannabis-information-and-resources)
- o [Drug licensing factsheet: cannabis, CBD and other cannabinoids - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/drug-licensing-factsheet-cannabis-cbd-and-other-cannabinoids)

All the relevant legislation can also be found by searching [Legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk), for example:

- o [The Misuse of Drugs \(Amendments\) \(Cannabis and Licence Fees\) \(England, Wales and Scotland\) Regulations 2018 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1226/contents/made)

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To view further information please also check the UK Parliament website.

Wiltshire Police follows the Home Office's guidance relating to medical cannabis. Please see the link below:

- o <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-0182018-rescheduling-of-cannabis-based-products-for-medicinal-use-in-humans>

You may also find the below link of interest. These changes are thoroughly regulated with strict controls and are not generated to be used to circumvent arrest or prosecution for the illegal purchase or possession of cannabis:

- o [Medical use of cannabis - House of Commons Library \(parliament.uk\)](#)

- Resources made available to officers in regard to how to deal with medicinal cannabis.

Please refer to our response for question 3 below. Cancards are issued to Police officers and Special Constables on their initial training.

- Information on how officers are trained in dealing with medicinal cannabis, such as training programmes and initiatives.

All student Police officers receive training in traffic legislation - this includes reference to medicinal cannabis. Student officers also receive training in the Misuse of Drugs Act legislation. Training is delivered via classroom and or on-line inputs. Students also undertake practical exercises to apply the theory.

The training curriculum is set by the COP (College of Policing) - should you require further details on the curriculum content please contact the College directly.

Special Constables receive Drink/Drug Drive legislation training on phase one of their course. Training for Specials on Drugs Wipe/Drug Driving Roadside, Station and Hospital procedures will commence for everyone when we start to deliver the Phase 2 Policing the Roads module in 2024. Some Specials have been provided with this training separately already.

Officers are trained to conduct roadside tests in line with COP guidelines.

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 21 – Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

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

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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
Telephone 101

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.

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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