

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXXXX
By email

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

Date 14th November 2023

Our Ref FOI 2023-1042

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26th October 2023, concerning Covid breaches.

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:

- 1) Since the start of the pandemic in 2020, please tell me the total number of people your police force brought fines against for Covid breaches (in the form of fixed penalty notices)? Such breaches, include, but are not limited to: large gatherings of more than fifteen people, illegal raves and large gatherings of more than, failure to wear a face covering as required thirty people
- 2) Please tell me the most recent date(s) your police force informed a person of their fine for a Covid breach? Please do this for the ten most recent dates (from the date of this request i.e. 26/10/23), telling me the exact breach the person was fined in relation to and the date of their arrest(s) if there was one. Please also tell me if these people have, as of the 26/10/23, paid the fine, or if they have appealed it.

Our response:

Question 1

Month Year	Number of people
Apr-2020	165
May-2020	60
Aug-2020	1

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Sep-2020	2
Oct-2020	4
Nov-2020	15
Dec-2020	34
Jan-2021	169
Feb-2021	260
Mar-2021	152
Apr-2021	21
May-2021	4
Jul-2021	1
Aug-2021	1
Sep-2021	1
Nov-2021	1
Total	891

Question 2

Date of Fine	Offences
08.04.2021	(Step 1) – Indoor gathering - 2 or more people (Steps)
09.05.2021	(Test and Trace) – Fail to self-isolate – (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Self Isolation) (England)
08.04.2021	(Step 1) – Indoor gathering - 2 or more people (Steps)
22.05.2021	(Step 3) - Outdoor gathering of more than 30 people; (Step 3) - Indoor gathering of more than 6 people
29.04.2021	(Tier 4) – not to leave or be outside of place where living – Coronavirus (All Tiers); (Tier 4) – indoor/dwelling gathering of 2 or more people – Coronavirus (All Tiers); (Tier 4) – other outdoor space 2 or more people, outside Tier 4 area – Coronavirus (All Tiers)
22.05.2021	(Step 3) - Indoor gathering of more than 6 people; (Step 3) - Outdoor gathering of more than 30 people
06.04.2021	(Tier 4) – indoor/dwelling gathering of 2 or more people, outside Tier 4 area – Coronavirus (All Tiers)
08.07.2021	(Test and Trace) – Fail to self-isolate – (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Self Isolation) (England)
03.08.2021	(Travel/Operator) - Red List - Fail to self isolate
12.09.2021	(Travel/Operator) - Red List - Fail to self isolate

No individuals were arrested.

The system used to retrieve this information does not detail whether the fine was paid or not.

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

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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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