



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.uk

disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 23rd November 2023

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2023 / 1095

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13th November 2023 concerning Assaults on Emergency Workers.

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 – having consulted our Business Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and Our Response) :

Please can you provide me with the following information relating chiefly to the offence type of Assault on an Emergency Worker for each of the last 5 calendar years (beginning with 2019 and also including 2023, up until the date this request is answered). There are two supplementary questions which relate to a different offence type, Assaulting a Police Constable. Please provide figures for the same period.

1/ The annual number of recorded offences of Assault on an Emergency Worker?

2019	3
2020	53
2021	66
2022	77
2023 to date	38

2/ / The annual number of charges recorded for the offence of Assault on an Emergency Worker?



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

2019	0
2020	27
2021	30
2022	22
2023 to date	32

3/ The annual number of recorded offences of Assault on an Emergency Worker where that worker was a police officer?

2019	1
2020	34
2021	24
2022	26
2023 to date	26

4/ The annual number of charges recorded for the offence of Assault on an Emergency Worker where that worker was a police officer?

2019	0
2020	23
2021	18
2022	14
2023 to date	20

5/ The annual number of recorded offences of Assaulting a Police Constable in the execution of their duty (often known as Assault PC)?

Assaulting a Police Officer in the execution of their duty is a very specific Home Office Crime Code, totals for this specific code are as follows :-

2019	4
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
2023 to date	0

The total figures for Assaults on Police Officers (6 other Home Office Codes including the one relevant to *in the execution of their duty*) are as follows :-

2019	160
2020	135
2021	137
2022	140
2023 to date	104

6/ The annual number of charges recorded for the offence of Assaulting a Police Constable in the execution of their duty?

Assaulting a Police Officer *in the execution of their duty* is a very specific Home Office Crime Code, totals of charges for this specific code are as follows :-

2019	4
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
2023 to date	0

The total figures for Assaults on Police Officers (6 other Home Office Codes including the one relevant to *in the execution of their duty*) are as follows :-

2019	130
2020	121
2021	110
2022	96
2023 to date	90

It is understood that Assault of a Police Constable is used less as an offence type after the legislation change concerning Assault on an Emergency Worker in 2018.

Q1-4 relate to <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/23>

Q 5-6 relate to <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/16/section/89>

Clarification: For charges data, it is accepted that there may occasionally be a lag with the charging of some offences and so please provide only the specific number of charges decided on that year - and not tied to the offences they relate to.

If further clarification is needed on the offence of AEW, please refer to the below which includes (for instance) a definition of an emergency worker:

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/assaults-emergency-workers-offences-act-2018>

Please Note

- Data for 2023 is up to and including 31st October 2023
- For Q3 and Q4, this includes totals for Police Officers and Police Staff
- The Disposal Year has been used to answer questions related to Charges

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,

Nick Penny
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 ext 62005

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.pnn.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.

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