

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 27th December 2023

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2023 / 1214

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22nd December 2023 concerning Op Encompass.

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 MASH Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and Our Response) :

The average time in hours and or days in which your police force has provided information under Operation Encompass protocols of a domestic violence incident to relevant local schools after officers have attended the incident in:

- a) 2019
- b) 2022
- c) 2023 so far

No Information Held

If the average response time is not available, please supply the data that shows the length of time between each incident and sharing the information with relevant schools over the past 12 months'?

No Information Held

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Please Note

There is no obligation on an Authority to provide any form of explanation when providing a No Information Held response in an FOI request.

Similarly, where no information currently exists, there is no obligation on an Authority to create new information simply to answer an FOI request.

However, in spite of the above – in this case and under our Section 16 obligation to be as helpful as possible to an applicant – I am happy to provide a degree of clarification here :-

We do not currently record / hold the average time that Wiltshire Police have taken to disclose reported DV information to schools after officers have attended a specific incident.

In 2019, Op Encompass notifications were sent when a child had been 'affected' by a Domestic Abuse incident, not all Domestic abuse incident notifications were sent. This remit was changed and since early 2022 all domestic abuse incidents where there is a child linked to either victim or suspect a notification is sent to the education setting.

Op Encompass notifications are sent every day via the MASH Researcher Team but the MASH Decision Maker reviews the PPD1 (now PPN) first. If the child's information or school details are not recorded by the attending officer, then there is a delay as that information needs to be sought. The notifications should be sent the very next day after the incident. In 2019 the notifications were sent the day after an incident but if the incident was at the weekend then the notification was sent on the Monday. We do not record the data to support this. The occurrence log of an incident was updated to say that a notification had been sent.

In 2022 and 2023 due to increasing demand and reduced resources we have had a backlog of Domestic Abuse PPN's so there have been delays of approximately five days for the notification to be sent unfortunately. This is for Standard risk DA incidents. Medium and High will have been prioritised and sent the day after the incident or certainly within three days when the backlog was significantly high.

We do now record data to show how many notifications have been sent and to what school/education setting and for how many children on a monthly basis. Since the backlog of DA incidents were cleared in September 2023, notifications have been sent the day after the incident or on the Monday after an incident occurring over the weekend.

The education leads for both local authorities and the Operation Encompass founders were aware of the delays and considerable efforts were made to clear that backlog and ensure notifications were sent in a timely way. There are plans to automate some of the process to prevent any further delays - this process will be in place sometime in 2024 but is dependent on IT priorities.

If you have a backlog of domestic violence incident information that is due to be shared with local relevant schools under Operation Encompass - if so - how long is the estimated delay in hours and or weeks and or months?

There is currently no backlog.

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