

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: 8th January 2024

Our ref: 2023-1210

Reply contact name:

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22nd December 2023 regarding crimes involving Gumtree.

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 Business Intelligence at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

- 1) In the calendar year 2023 up to the date of this email, how many crimes were logged by your force where the website Gumtree was recorded as being an element in the offence? [Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search for recorded crimes looking at the modus operandi (MO) and/or 'investigation summary' fields for the word 'Gumtree', 'gum tree'.]
- 2) Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 1 that are 'linked' to Gumtree by its mention in the MO and/or investigation summary field.
- 3) Please provide me with copies of the first 10 MOs and/or investigation summary fields that mention Gumtree. [Note: To avoid falling into an exemption I am content for the names, ages, geography, or any other detail to be redacted to allow for the disclosure of the incident and how it relates to Gumtree.]

Our response:

Proud to serve and protect our communities

OccSummary	HO_Code	OffenceDescription	Crime SubGroup	Gumtree	Gum tree
The IP has been told an advert has been placed on Gumtree 'cheating husband for sale' the advert included all the IP personal details. The IP feels this has been posted by his expartner. The IP also states she is contually sending emails and making false allegations against him. The IP feels constantly victimised. This has also affected his curent partner, who has now ended the relationship.	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking	Stalking And Harassment	1	0
Since advertising a dress on Gumtree, an unknown suspect has been making phone calls to IP making sexual comments and noise. She has then received a picture of a penis and other messages.	195/94	Harassment	Stalking And Harassment	1	0
Unknown male has been invited in to IP's home to purchase a mobile phone after responding to an ad on Gum Treet Whilst there, asked IP to get his bank details for payment, whilst IP was out of room, male left the property with the phone.	40	Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	All Other Theft Offences	0	1

Please note: This data was obtained by completing a summary search for the terms "Gumtree" and "Gum Tree". The results of these types of searches may be unreliable and inaccurate as only the summary field of the report is searched. If these terms are contained elsewhere (i.e. within the call log, crime report, statements etc) these will not be returned in the results. Additionally, if the term is misspelt within the summary field, this will not be returned. To provide accurate results would require a manual search of each crime within the specified timeframe to deem if they were relevant to your request.

Please note that the OccSummary column has been sanitized and any personal data has been removed.

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