

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: January 19, 2024

Our ref: FOI 2024/079

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18th January 2024 concerning suspicious parcels.

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 Team Performance Department at Wiltshire Police.

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

You Wrote:

1. How many suspicious parcels were reported to your police force from January 1st 2023 – January 1st 2024? This might include:

- Parcels with protruding wires, aluminium foil, or oil stains
- Parcels emitting a peculiar odour
- Greasy or oily patches on the package
- Packages sealed in such a way so as to encourage opening the package at a particular end
- Unusually printed address that might include spelling errors
- Adverse physical reaction to the handling of the package – e.g., itching or irritation
- No return address or return address that cannot be verified
- Unusual postmark or no postmark

2. Of these, how many suspicious parcels were reported from a business address? How many were reported from a home address?

3. If possible, can you provide a month by month breakdown of the number of suspicious parcels reported (from any address).

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4. In total, how many of the suspicious parcels reported to any address from January 1st 2023 – January 1st 2024 actually contained a hazardous, dangerous, or illegal item? This might include:

- Substances and objects which may explode
- Gases which have been compressed, liquefied, or dissolved under pressure
- Flammable liquids and solids
- Biological substances
- Asbestos
- Controlled drugs and narcotics
- Corrosives
- Live creatures, insects, and invertebrates
- Waste, dirt, filth, or refuse
- Weapons and sharp objects
- Poisons, toxic liquids, solids, and gases
- Obscene publications or unlawful indecent images

Response:

Question One

119

Question Two

26 business

55 private

Question Three

January 2023

9

February 2023

7

March 2023

11

April 2023

11

May 2023

11

June 2023

12

July 2023

14

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August 2023

11

September 2023

7

October 2023

9

November 2023

10

December 2023

7

Question Four

49

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,

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



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.

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

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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 you contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>