

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via email



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 01/03/2024

Our ref: FOI 2024/200

Reply contact name:

Dear

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/02/2024 concerning domestic abuse perpetrated by police officers and staff and training in relation to domestic abuse.

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 Professional Standards, and Learning and Development at Wiltshire Police.

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

Request 1

How many reports of domestic abuse have been logged against serving police officers and police staff between January 2020 and January 2024?

Answer: 8

2: How many of those reports made between January 2020 -and January 2024 resulted in: a) a criminal trial, b) criminal charges, but no trial; c) a formal misconduct investigation; d) a misconduct hearing; e) a finding of misconduct; f) a finding of gross misconduct; g) a written warning; h) No further Action /No case to answer

Answer: There is no Allegation code for DA, however we have identified 10 allegations, outcomes below.

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Category	Received Date	Police Officer/ Police Staff	Investigation Outcome
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	03/01/2023	Police Officer	No further action
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	11/01/2023	Recruit	No further action
VAWG- Police Perpetrated DA	12/01/2023	Police Officer	Centurion Investigation - Discontinued
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	08/07/2022	Police Officer	No further action
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	23/08/2022	Police Staff	No further action
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	24/08/2022	Police Staff	No further Action
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	20/09/2022	Police Staff	No case to answer
11 Other Criminal Behaviour	28/11/2022	Police Officer	No further action
VAWG- Police Perpetrated	08/02/2021	Police Officer	No Case to answer

3. How many police officers or police staff resigned, retired, or left for other reasons, following allegations of domestic abuse related offences from January 2020 to January 2024?

1 x resignation

1x Deceased

4. How many police officers or police staff who have resigned, retired, or left for other reasons following allegations of domestic abuse related offences from January 2020 to January 2024, have been rehired in any capacity by the police service? Answer:- 0
5. Does your police service have policies and procedures specific to responding to allegations of police perpetrated domestic abuse? a) Yes b) No Answer:- Yes
6: If you answered yes to question 5, has your force updated policies and procedures specific to responding to allegations of police perpetrated domestic abuse since the Super-Complaint by the Centre for Women's Justice in March 2020? a) Yes b) No Answer:- Yes
7. If you answered yes to question 6, please provide details of any updates and a copy of your current policy and operational guidance on PPDA. If you answered no, please still provide your policy and operational guidance on PPDA.

6. POLICE OFFICERS AND STAFF VICTIMS / PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

APP [Domestic Abuse > Leadership, Strategic Oversight and Management](#) > 3. Management > 3.1.1 Management of personnel > Specific management considerations when dealing with police perpetrators of domestic abuse should be referred to in circumstances where police officers, police staff and partners or family members of officers and staff are victims of domestic abuse.

- All incidents of police perpetrated domestic abuse are to be investigated by a PIP2 detective/investigator from CID, who is based at a different location to where the suspect works, and, where possible, lives.
- Where a Wiltshire police officer or member of staff is arrested the officer should be taken to a custody unit outside of Wiltshire (if practical and safe to do so).
- The Head of PSD must be made aware of any arrest when practicable to do so.
- In all such investigations, the OIC should sign an undertaking to declare that they have no conflict of personal or professional interest in relation to the suspect or the victim. (see [Appendix A - Police Perpetrated Domestic Abuse Undertaking](#)).
- The safeguarding of the victim(s) and any key witnesses will be the responsibility of the Safeguarding Team within PPD.

8. Police forces are required to report the number of misconduct cases and criminal investigations involving PPDA and their outcomes to the Home Office, does your force currently do this?

a) Yes

b) No

Answer:- Yes

9. As of June 2022 in the IT system Centurian, VAWG-police perpetrated and VAWG-police injured party and domestic abuse should be available to select as an option. Does your police service currently use these options to capture this data?

Answer:- there is a VAWG flag/Tag that we are meant to put on (or ensuring it is on when closing), but we don't have a fail safe process for this yet

10. Has your police service made any improvements since 2020 to the way it captures data relating to cases of PPDA? If yes, please explain.

Answer:- No fail safe process for this yet.

11. Does your police service deliver training specific to responding to allegations of police perpetrated domestic abuse?

a) Yes

b) No Answer: – we had Safe Lives to deliver Officer Involved DA as a day course for DA Champions (plus a CCU investigator and representatives from EDI) on 18th October 2023. This day will be run again this year for a further group of Champions
12. If you answered yes to question 11, please advise in numbers how many officers and staff have received that training up to the end of January 2024. Answer: — 25 attendees with a further 25 spaces on the next course. This will see over 50% of our Champions receiving this input. We currently also run DA Matters Champion training internally. We currently have 85 officers and staff trained as DA Champions
13. Is the PPDA training a) Mandatory b) Voluntary Answer:- Voluntary
14. What procedures does your force have in place to support police victims of PPDA? Answer:- Support is provided through the victim's line manager, Occupational Health Unit and signposting to EAP. The Force is currently exploring training for welfare officers both in relation to victims and perpetrators
15. Given that s.29(4) of the Police Reform Act 2002 precludes police officers and police employees from making a police complaint against anyone who is under the direction and control of the same Chief Officer, does your police service treat reports of PPDA where the victim is a police officer or police employee as a conduct matter (as defined in s.12 PRA 2002)? Answer:- Yes
16. If you answered yes to question 15, does your force treat the police victim as an “interested person” in the misconduct investigation? Answer:- Yes as a Victim or as a Witness

17. Does your force have any policy or procedure for referring the investigation of PPDA allegations against a member of your force to an external force for investigation? If so, please provide details.

Answer:- MOU is awaiting signing. The current DA policy within the Force details specific requirements around PPDA investigations including that the investigator is not known to the perpetrator and vice versa – there is a document to sign with reference to this. We will keep the Conduct aspect

18. Does your police service have any policy or procedure for accepting referrals from another force of forces for your force to investigate allegations of PPDA made against members of their force? If so, please provide details.

Answer:- As above, considering a partnership but not formalised yet.

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

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



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/>