

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

[www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)[disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

XXXXXX – by email

Date: 20th March 2024

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2024 / 278

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 concerning Hate Crime Statistics.

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 I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested.

**You wrote:**

I am seeking information on all hate crime offences or non-crime hate incidents that occurred in your jurisdiction.

In particular, I'd like a most extensive possible excel spreadsheet containing the most precise possible location, time, and type of any racially and religiously aggravated crimes that occurred in 2023.

For example, I would appreciate a list of the date, ward, and motivating factor (Race/Religion/Sexual orientation/Disability/Transgender) for all aggravated offences you have information of that occurred in 2023, if this is the most disaggregated format and widest temporal scope you can feasibly offer. If you can offer more detail, such as more exact motivating factor (i.e. over jewish/muslim background if religion) or more extensive data (beyond 2023) please do so.

**Our response:**

I have provided you below with a number of statistics around Hate Crime and Non-Crime Hate Incidents that have been reported to Wiltshire Police during 2023.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

It should be noted the the following information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40 of the FOIA which covers Personal Information :-

- The exact date a report was made
- The exact location (address) from where a report was made
- The summary description of the report in question

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is no obligation on an Authority to provide any reasoning or rationale for adopting that exemption, however under our Section 16 duty to be as helpful as possible to an applicant, in this case I am happy to provide a degree of clarification in my decision :-

- Any disclosure under FOIA is essentially a disclosure to the world, not simply to the applicant.
- Disclosing details of the exact date a report was made or certain specific details about the nature of it (eg the summary description that describes the details of the specific allegation) could confirm to a Suspect whether or not a report has been formally made to Wiltshire Police.
- In addition, there is a possibility – however slight – that when allied to other information that may already be in the public domain, it could lead to the identification of the individuals concerned.

The information I am able to provide you is as follows :-

| Calendar Year 2023       |              |                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Classification           | Indiv Number | Number of NICL qualifiers recorded |
| Crimes                   | 859          | 914                                |
| Non Hate-Crime Incidents | 131          | 140                                |

Please note, we record Hate Crimes using NICL (National Incident Category List) qualifier codes. There are currently 5 separate NICL qualifier categories that can be used to record Hate Crime – Racial, Religion, Disability, Sexual Orientation and Transgender. It is possible for one particular crime or incident reference to be assigned more than one NICL qualifier code – hence the difference in the figures reported above.

The Wards (I have used our CPT Areas for this) where these NICL qualifiers were recorded in 2023 were as follows :-

For Hate Crimes

| CPT Area     | Disability | Racial     | Religion  | Sexual Orientation | Transgender | Total      |
|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| Amesbury     | 4          | 27         |           | 7                  | 3           | 41         |
| Chippenham   | 8          | 35         | 3         | 15                 | 5           | 66         |
| Devizes      | 10         | 28         | 3         | 9                  | 4           | 54         |
| RWB          |            | 21         | 2         | 4                  |             | 27         |
| Salisbury    | 11         | 78         | 4         | 15                 | 8           | 116        |
| Swindon      | 23         | 294        | 28        | 80                 | 26          | 451        |
| Trowbridge   | 9          | 53         | 7         | 32                 | 8           | 109        |
| Unknown      |            | 9          |           |                    |             | 9          |
| Warminster   | 6          | 25         | 1         | 7                  | 2           | 41         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>71</b>  | <b>570</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>169</b>         | <b>56</b>   | <b>914</b> |

#### For Non-Crime Hate Incidents

| CPT Area     | Disability | Racial    | Religion  | Sexual Orientation | Transgender | Total      |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| Amesbury     | 2          | 3         |           | 1                  | 1           | 7          |
| Chippenham   | 2          | 3         | 2         | 5                  | 1           | 13         |
| Devizes      | 1          | 4         | 1         |                    | 1           | 7          |
| RWB          |            | 3         |           | 1                  |             | 4          |
| Salisbury    | 1          | 10        |           | 3                  | 1           | 15         |
| Swindon      | 3          | 46        | 7         | 6                  | 4           | 66         |
| Trowbridge   |            | 3         | 2         | 2                  | 2           | 9          |
| Unknown      |            | 6         | 1         | 2                  | 1           | 10         |
| Warminster   | 1          | 3         | 1         | 3                  | 1           | 9          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>10</b>  | <b>81</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>23</b>          | <b>12</b>   | <b>140</b> |

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 40 : Personal Information

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

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](mailto: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](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)