

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via email



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 08/05/2024

Our ref: FOI 2024/371

Reply contact name:

Dear

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/04/2024 concerning accusations of sexual assault leading to arrests without warrant by sex.

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 business intelligence team at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

In January 2023, looking at all accusations of sexual assault received by your police force:

- 1) How many accusations of sexual assault were received against males by males and how many of these resulted in an arrest without warrant?
- 2) How many accusations of sexual assault were received against females by males and how many of these resulted in an arrest without warrant?
- 3) How many accusations of sexual assault were received against males by females and how many of these resulted in an arrest without warrant?
- 4) How many accusations of sexual assault were received against females by females and how many of these resulted in an arrest without warrant?

This is in the public interest to allay or confirm whether or not males are more likely to be arrested than females as a result of an accusation of a crime.

Later refined: I am only interested in arrests under Section 24 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, which covers the powers of arrest without warrant.

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Response

Q1	Male victim/ Male suspect	Arrests
2019	65	8
2020	47	4
2021	53	10
2022	65	10
2023	78	19
2024	9	3

Data to 26/04/2024

Q2	Male victim/ Female suspect	Arrests
2019	20	1
2020	11	1
2021	24	1
2022	20	1
2023	39	8
2024	8	3

Data to 26/04/2024

Q3	Female victim/ Male suspect	Arrests
2019	444	99
2020	380	94
2021	500	138
2022	587	150
2023	521	195
2024	129	50

Data to 26/04/2024

Q4	Female victim/ Female suspect	Arrests
2019	15	0
2020	24	5
2021	29	1
2022	41	3
2023	36	7
2024	6	1

Data to 26/04/2024

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

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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

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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

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/>