



WILTSHIRE POLICE

Force Disclosure Unit

Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 10th May 2024

Ref: FOI 2024/444

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22nd April 2024 concerning offences of child 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.

Your request for information has now been considered and after having consulted our Business Intelligence team – I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote & our response:

1. How many offences of child physical abuse were recorded by the force in the last three years?
(Between April, 6, 2021 - April, 5, 2022/ April 6, 2022 - April 5, 2023/ April 6, 2023 = April 5, 2023)

Reported Year/Month	Crimes
2021	866
Apr	83
May	106
Jun	115
Jul	112
Aug	76
Sep	89
Oct	84
Nov	108
Dec	93
2022	1023
Jan	100
Feb	86

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Mar	134
Apr	105
May	116
Jun	95
Jul	69
Aug	49
Sep	82
Oct	104
Nov	63
Dec	20
2023	113
Jan	31
Feb	28
Mar	50
Apr	4
Grand Total	2002

2. Of these, how many instances where the suspect/perpetrator was the child's parent/guardian?

Victim Accused Relationship: Father (incl. step/half/adopted), Mother (incl. step/half/adopted) and Carer.

Reported Year/Month	Crimes
2021	237
Apr	16
May	29
Jun	25
Jul	37
Aug	21
Sep	24
Oct	23
Nov	35
Dec	27
2022	264
Jan	21
Feb	23
Mar	37
Apr	16
May	38
Jun	22
Jul	18
Aug	9
Sep	18
Oct	25
Nov	21
Dec	16

2023	50
Jan	9
Feb	11
Mar	27
Apr	3
Grand Total	551

Caveats:

Reported dates: 6th April 2021 – 5th April 2023.

Reported age: under 18 years.

Local qualifier: Physical Abuse.

Crime group: Violence Against the Person.

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.



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.

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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