

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 2nd May 2024

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2024 / 478

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 1st May 2024 concerning Fatal Dog Attacks.

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 – having consulted our Business Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

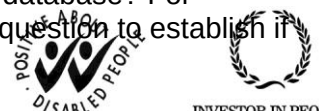
The purpose of this request is to obtain information in relation to dogs that attacked humans where the attack resulted in a human fatality. I am requesting information for the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. If your force has not dealt with any fatal dog attacks in the years listed please reply to say that you hold no relevant information and that will be an end to this request.

The purpose of the request is to obtain information about the dog(s) involved in the attacks. I do not require any information that might identify the victim, any police officers involved in the incident, any veterinarian or any other individual linked in anyway with the incident.

I will only require information in relation to the owner of the dog(s) and/or the person in possession/responsible for the dog at the time of the attack if there has been a criminal conviction.

I do not need the exact date of the incident or the location of the incident. For my purposes it is sufficient to establish in which Constabulary the incident occurred and the year it occurred.

1. The year in which the attack took place
2. Was the dog(s) microchipped? If the answer to this question is no please go to question 4.
3. In relation to dogs that were microchipped please confirm
 - a. If the chip had been recorded on a recognised database and the name of that database
 - b. Was the name of the person who implanted the chip recorded on the database? For clarification I do not need to know the name of the person. I am asking the question to establish if you were able to identify who implanted the chip in the dog.



- c. If the chip had been registered to the breeder of the dog prior to sale. If the dog had been registered to the breeder was the breeder a licensed or unlicensed breeder?
- d. If the chip had been registered to the person who first purchased the dog
- e. If the chip was re-registered to another person (s). If there was any re-registering please give the date(s) on which the chip was re-registered. Re-registering means the dog was registered in the name of a new keeper/owner and does not refer to the same keeper/owner updating their details. Again, I am not asking for any personal information. The point of the question is to establish if a full record of the ownership/ transfer of ownership was kept and was up to date.
- f. Was the dog's date of birth recorded, if so what age was the dog at the date of the attack.
- g. If the dog was imported and, if it was, where it was imported from
- h. The gender of the dog
- i. Was the dog's colour recorded, if so what was it
- j. Was the dog's breed or crossbreed type recorded, if so what was it
4. Following the attack was the dog(s)
 - a. Shot by police at the scene
 - b. Put to sleep by a veterinarian at the scene
 - c. Removed to a third party location and put to sleep
 - i. With the consent of the owner/keeper
 - ii. By Order of the Court
 - d. If the dog was not put to sleep what happened to it
5. Was the dog imported into the U.K? I am asking this question in addition to the question about importation at 3 above because the dog may not have been microchipped or the microchip might not have been correctly recorded as being registered to a U.K. database after importation. Potentially a dog imported illegally.
6. If a necropsy or other physical examination (before or after death) of the dog took place please provide me with a copy of the relevant report(s)/ paper(s). I appreciate it will be necessary to redact any report(s)/ paper(s). Alternatively, please provide a summary of the report to include (if recorded)
 - a. Age of the dog
 - b. Gender of the dog
 - c. Breed, crossbreed or type of dog
 - d. Weight of the dog
 - e. Height of the dog
 - f. Length of the dog
 - g. If it's ears had been cropped
 - h. If it's tail had been docked
 - i. Any injuries that would be considered indicative of cruelty
 - j. Any injuries that would be considered indicative of dog fighting
 - k. The overall condition of the dog and any concerns it had been neglected and/or was malnourished
 - l. Any evidence that drugs (veterinary or otherwise but not including drugs administered for euthanasia or treatment of the dog whilst in police custody) had been administered to the dog
7. If there has been a criminal conviction in relation to the incident please confirm
 - a. The name of the person(s) convicted
 - b. The offences convicted of
 - c. The sentence handed down

Our response:

There have been no Fatal Dog Attacks on people in Wiltshire between 2019-to date.

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.

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 Fol 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