

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXX - Via email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 11th July 2024

Our Ref FOI 2024-635

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 3rd July 2024, concerning antisocial behaviour.

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 Team Performance at Wiltshire Police. Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

1. The total number of reports of personal antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.
2. The total number of reports of nuisance antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.
3. The total number of reports of environmental antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.
4. The total number of antisocial behaviour orders issued to individuals in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.

Our response:

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at s1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at s1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

Whilst I can confirm Wiltshire Police do hold the requested information, section 12(1) of the FOIA states:-

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Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

The information you are requesting, specifically regarding question 4, is not stored in a way which permits for easy retrieval. In order to retrieve this information, we would be required to manually interrogate each individual antisocial behaviour related occurrence to see if an order was issued, as there is no way of filtering this on our systems. There are thousands of occurrences in the time period requested, which would exceed the time obligations.

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it. Therefore the whole of the request should fall under the exemption of section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please note:

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is due to the fact that locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

Forces may use different recording systems, therefore it may be possible some Forces can provide this information where others cannot.

Ordinarily under our Section 16 obligation to provide advice and assistance we would advise you of a way to refine your request to a more manageable level. Due to the difficulties in obtaining the requested information, as outlined above, I cannot think of a way in which this could be achieved.

Although excess cost removes the Forces' obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. What I can provide you with is documented below:

1. The total number of reports of personal antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.

	Personal TOTAL
Jan-2019	316
Feb-2019	337
Mar-2019	379
Apr-2019	391
May-2019	452
Jun-2019	489
Jul-2019	507

Aug-2019	479
Sep-2019	442
Oct-2019	433
Nov-2019	379
Dec-2019	390
Jan-2020	313
Feb-2020	267
Mar-2020	325
Apr-2020	385
May-2020	431
Jun-2020	423
Jul-2020	467
Aug-2020	411
Sep-2020	419
Oct-2020	336
Nov-2020	336
Dec-2020	330
Jan-2021	334
Feb-2021	332
Mar-2021	406
Apr-2021	409
May-2021	398
Jun-2021	444
Jul-2021	401
Aug-2021	351
Sep-2021	386
Oct-2021	329
Nov-2021	260

Dec-2021	325
Jan-2022	261
Feb-2022	284
Mar-2022	376
Apr-2022	307
May-2022	362
Jun-2022	380
Jul-2022	427
Aug-2022	423
Sep-2022	323
Oct-2022	365
Nov-2022	295
Dec-2022	249
Jan-2023	237
Feb-2023	269
Mar-2023	314
Apr-2023	310
May-2023	352
Jun-2023	341
Jul-2023	346
Aug-2023	307
Sep-2023	312
Oct-2023	292
Nov-2023	246
Dec-2023	232
Jan-2024	241
Feb-2024	252
Mar-2024	289

Apr-2024	307
May-2024	300
Jun-2024	316
Jul-2024	80

2. The total number of reports of nuisance antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.

	Nuisance TOTAL
Jan-2019	783
Feb-2019	796
Mar-2019	875
Apr-2019	834
May-2019	933
Jun-2019	1027
Jul-2019	1101
Aug-2019	1068
Sep-2019	806
Oct-2019	910
Nov-2019	722
Dec-2019	682
Jan-2020	718
Feb-2020	602
Mar-2020	820
Apr-2020	1179
May-2020	1122
Jun-2020	1088
Jul-2020	1225
Aug-2020	1187
Sep-2020	877

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Oct-2020	839
Nov-2020	661
Dec-2020	728
Jan-2021	731
Feb-2021	726
Mar-2021	1002
Apr-2021	948
May-2021	897
Jun-2021	993
Jul-2021	1007
Aug-2021	863
Sep-2021	822
Oct-2021	761
Nov-2021	712
Dec-2021	609
Jan-2022	639
Feb-2022	607
Mar-2022	750
Apr-2022	796
May-2022	865
Jun-2022	859
Jul-2022	914
Aug-2022	956
Sep-2022	731
Oct-2022	781
Nov-2022	589
Dec-2022	516
Jan-2023	471

Feb-2023	605
Mar-2023	579
Apr-2023	688
May-2023	736
Jun-2023	729
Jul-2023	701
Aug-2023	666
Sep-2023	530
Oct-2023	619
Nov-2023	511
Dec-2023	455
Jan-2024	397
Feb-2024	438
Mar-2024	491
Apr-2024	513
May-2024	608
Jun-2024	646
Jul-2024	154

3. The total number of reports of environmental antisocial behaviour in your force area, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date.

	Environmental TOTAL
Jan-2019	55
Feb-2019	38
Mar-2019	48
Apr-2019	89
May-2019	76
Jun-2019	65
Jul-2019	98

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Aug-2019	95
Sep-2019	69
Oct-2019	70
Nov-2019	72
Dec-2019	68
Jan-2020	54
Feb-2020	48
Mar-2020	96
Apr-2020	170
May-2020	113
Jun-2020	75
Jul-2020	89
Aug-2020	91
Sep-2020	79
Oct-2020	68
Nov-2020	76
Dec-2020	71
Jan-2021	63
Feb-2021	63
Mar-2021	74
Apr-2021	50
May-2021	54
Jun-2021	56
Jul-2021	56
Aug-2021	55
Sep-2021	62
Oct-2021	43
Nov-2021	40

Dec-2021	42
Jan-2022	27
Feb-2022	44
Mar-2022	41
Apr-2022	48
May-2022	59
Jun-2022	49
Jul-2022	64
Aug-2022	50
Sep-2022	49
Oct-2022	38
Nov-2022	31
Dec-2022	44
Jan-2023	34
Feb-2023	36
Mar-2023	40
Apr-2023	52
May-2023	45
Jun-2023	51
Jul-2023	55
Aug-2023	72
Sep-2023	77
Oct-2023	45
Nov-2023	37
Dec-2023	37
Jan-2024	41
Feb-2024	34
Mar-2024	28

Apr-2024	49
May-2024	44
Jun-2024	44
Jul-2024	18

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires 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 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

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

Please contact me if you would like to discuss the withheld information.

Yours sincerely,

Force Disclosure Decision Maker