



Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Ref: FOI 2024/642

tenures of its former substantive and temporary DCCs and ACCs (see here <https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avonandsomerset.police.uk%2Fabout%2Ffreedom-of-information%2Fprevious-foi-requests%2Frequests%2Fdeputy-and-assistant-chief-constables-2009-2021%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cdisclosure%40wiltshire.police.uk%7C0ec02a9f8e88419678de08dc9e11ae74%7C4e5729cf852d4510921251157ca27e3e%7C0%7C0%7C638559046109948259%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBtil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WS7ZQX1E%2Fb97SJ3rHvNroklKbTmsM4wdxKySS9Ysj0w%3D&reserved=0.>)

Our response:

The information that you are requesting for part of your request (in particular the ethnicity data for one of the previous Chief Constable's) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. Due to system changes, it has proven difficult to locate the ethnicity data for previous Chief Constable, Martin Richards, who led the force between 2004 and 2007. In order to confirm whether we hold this data or not, we would need to manually trawl through our registry to see if we still hold this information.

Therefore, 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.

Please note, that 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.

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 am able to provide you are the answers documented below –

- **Sept 2004 – Sept 2007: Martin Richards (male)**
- **Jan 2008 – Sept 2012: Brian Moore (male & White British)**
- **Mar 2012 – Jun 2015: Pat Geenty (male & White British)**
- **Jun 2015 – Mar 2018 (1st June 2015 – 28th June 2015 (temp) & 29th June 2015 – March 2018 (substantive)): Mike Veale (male & White British)**
- **Nov 2018 – Jun 2023: Kier Pritchard (male & White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British)**
- **Feb 2023 - present: Catherine Roper (female & White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British)**

All substantive apart from a temp promotion for Mike Veale from 01/06/2015 to 28/06/2015, while Pat Geenty was technically still in post, then he was substantive from 29/06/2015.

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Ordinarily under our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case but please be aware that there may be information within the public domain that may assist you in obtaining the previous Chief Constable Martin Richards' ethnicity data.

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 12(2) – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

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,

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