



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

Date: 19th September 2024

Ref: FOI 2024/687

Dear,

I write in connection with your original request for information dated 24th July 2024 concerning custody records for arrests under the Public Order Act.

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 (original request, dated 24th July 2024):

We are writing to make an amended and refined request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please could you provide the custody records for arrests under sections 12 and 14 of the Public Order Act 1986 alongside, in each case, the age grouping of the persons arrested, the gender of the persons arrested and the ethnicity of the persons arrested. Please could you provide the requested information for both of the following time periods:

- January 2017 – May 2022 (inclusive); and
- June – July 2024 (inclusive).

Please could you also provide the custody records for arrests under (i) s.78 Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 and (ii) the Public Order Act 2023 alongside the age grouping of the persons arrested, the gender of the persons arrested and the ethnicity of the persons arrested.

Clarification received (dated 5th September 2024):

We can confirm that we do not mean the custody records themselves and are instead asking for statistical data on the number of custody records.

Our response:

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No information held – there are no custody records for arrests made under those specific offences within the time frame requested.

However, as part of our Section 16 duty to provide advice and guidance where possible – I've been informed that any arrests that would've fallen under these Acts, would've likely fallen under a different section of these Acts to the sections you've requested. But, you could re-submit your request to us asking for the same information but for a different time frame and/or request for arrest data relating to these Acts as a whole as you will likely obtain more information doing so in this manner.

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.

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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

Website : <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>