

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXX – By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 14th January 2025

Our Ref FOI 2025-029

Dear XXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 7th January 2025, concerning DVPOs.

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:

For the 2024 calendar year (1 Jan to 4 Dec):

- a) The number of DVPOs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPOs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPOs received.

Of these (high risk DVPOs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

The same for the 2023 calendar year (1 Jan to 31 Dec):

- a) The number of DVPOs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPOs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPOs received.

Of these (high risk DVPOs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

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The same for the 2022 calendar year (1 Jan to 31 Dec):

- a) The number of DVPOs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPOs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPOs received.

Of these (high risk DVPOs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPNs.

Clarification received 08/01/2025:

PLEASE NOTE: I SUBMITTED A REQUEST ON 08/01/2025 WHICH WAS INCORRECT. THE CORRECT VERSION IS BELOW.

For the 2024 calendar year (1 Jan to 31 Dec)

- a) The number of DVPNs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPNs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPNs received.

Of these (high risk DVPNs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

The same for the 2023 calendar year (1 Jan to 31 Dec)

- a) The number of DVPNs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPNs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPNs received.

Of these (high risk DVPNs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

3. The same for the 2022 calendar year (1 Jan to 31 Dec)

- a) The number of DVPNs (of all types, including high risk) received.

Of these (DVPNs of all types) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

- b) The number of high risk DVPNs received.

Of these (high risk DVPNs) please provide:

- i) The number that could not be followed up because of NRPF (no recourse to public funds) status.
- ii) The number that continued into DVPOs.

Our response:

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

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:-

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 in relation to the number of DVPNs that were not followed up because of NRPF, is not stored in a way which permits for easy retrieval. To determine which DVPNs were not followed up because of NRPF, we would be required to manually review each DVPN between the time period requested (2022 – 2024), of which there are 311 incidents in total. Each review would take on average 5 minutes and therefore to furnish this request would take approximately 25 hours.

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:

	2022	2023	2024
The number of DVPNs (of all types, including high risk) received.	98	111	102
The number that continued into DVPOs.	75	85	80

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