

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.uk
disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 14th January 2024

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2025 / 047

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12th January 2025 concerning Taser use in Mental Health Settings.

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:

Could you please provide the following specific information:

- A list of instances when tasers were deployed by members of your police force in mental health settings in the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- A breakdown of each institution in which these instances of taser deployment occurred.
- The age of each person who was tasered in each case provided.

For the purposes of this request, the definition of ‘mental health settings’ includes:

- Mental health hospitals
- Mental health wards
- Mental health clinics



Our response:

The information you require is as shown in the table below :-

Year	Age of person involved	Mental Health Setting	Highest Taser Method	Force Factors	Reason for Force
2019	61	Green Lane Hospital , Devizes	Discharged	Mental health; Prior knowledge; Size/gender/build	Protect other officers; Protect self; Protect subject
2019	20	St Patricks House Boscombe down Amesbury	Arced	Mental health; Possession of a weapon; Size/gender/build	Protect public; Protect self; Protect subject
2021	60	Applewood House Swindon	Arced	Mental health	Protect public; Protect subject
2022	49	Green Lane Hospital , Devizes	Drawn	Mental health; Size/gender/build	Prevent harm; Protect other officers; Protect public; Protect self; Remove handcuffs
2023	49	Green Lane Hospital , Devizes	Drawn	Mental health	Prevent harm; Protect other officers; Protect public; Protect self; Protect subject

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 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.

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