

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 27/02/2025

Our ref: FOI 2025/198

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13th February concerning violent crimes in school.

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 I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Please can I request under the Freedom of Information Act the following information recorded in your force area:

1a) Number of violent crimes in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024 recorded with the 'school' flag.

1b) Number of arrests for violent crimes recorded with the 'school' flag in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024.

2a) Number of knife crimes in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024 recorded with the 'school' flag.

2b) Number of arrests for knife crimes recorded with the 'school' flag in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024.

3a) Number of knife crimes with injury in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024 recorded with the 'school' flag.

3b) Number of arrests for knife crimes with injury recorded with the 'school' flag in each calendar year (separately) from 2014 to 2024.

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I note that being recorded with the 'school' flag does not always mean the incident occurred in a school, but I also note this would not be a reason for refusal.

Response:

This data has been run using the keyword *school*.

Please note, that a wildcard search only searches for the keyword within the summary of the occurrence and due to this, it does not necessarily suggest that the keyword is used in the context that you are after the information for.

Not only this, but reports relating to the *school* may not have used the word *school* within the occurrence summary, but it may have been noted within the log itself and without manually going into each and every log, we would be unable to obtain this information accurately.

Therefore, please be mindful that the positive results that have come back may not be a true reflection of how many reports have been received in relation to a *school*.

The response for Q1a & Q1b is based on the crime group Violence Against the Person

	Distinct Count of OccNo
2014	201
2015	309
2016	382
2017	368
2018	348
2019	357
2020	261
2021	307
2022	441
2023	455
2024	370
Grand Total	3799

Person Role: Arrested	Count of Person Id
2014	65
2015	172
2016	124
2017	21

2018	29
2019	50
2020	35
2021	20
2022	71
2023	70
2024	49
Grand Total	706

The response for Q2a & Q2b is based on the crime groups Possession of Weapons and Violence Against the Person with the Weapon Used filter applied with Knife/Bladed (Used/Threatened) and Knife/Bladed (Possession)

	Distinct Count of Occ No
2014	5
2015	14
2016	14
2017	16
2018	14
2019	13
2020	7
2021	7
2022	11
2023	17
2024	8
Grand Total	126

Person Role: Arrested	Count of Person Id
2014	2
2015	16
2016	4
2017	6
2018	2
2019	2
2020	0
2021	0

2022	3
2023	4
2024	1
Grand Total	40

The response for Q3a & Q3b is based on the crime groups Possession of Weapons and Violence Against the Person with the Weapon Used filter applied with Knife/Bladed (Used/Threatened) and Knife/Bladed (Possession), and positive results for Victim Injury

	Distinct Count of Occ No
2014	0
2015	3
2016	3
2017	3
2018	2
2019	2
2020	0
2021	0
2022	2
2023	7
2024	2
Grand Total	24

Person Role: Arrested	Count of Person Id
2014	0
2015	1
2016	0
2017	0
2018	2
2019	0
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
2023	0
2024	0
Grand Total	3

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.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

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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

Please note that the ICO's offices will be closed for the foreseeable future and are therefore unable to receive correspondence via post.

If you should wish you contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>