

WILTSHIRE POLICE



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 3rd March 2025

Our ref: FOI 2025/131

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 3rd February concerning officers charged with criminal offences.

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:

What is the force's policy on naming police officers charged with criminal offences?

If no local or national policy exists, what is the force's official position on naming officers in such cases?

Additionally, please provide copies of all press releases issued in 2024 concerning police officers charged with criminal offences.

Finally, please provide the number of police officers and special constables charged or summoned to court between 1st January 2024 and 31st December 2024.

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

www.wiltshire.police.uk | [Facebook/wiltshirepolice](https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice) | [X/@wiltshirepolice](https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice) | [LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wiltshirepolice)

Response:

The information that you are requesting for the majority of your request (namely question 4) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. Wiltshire Police do not hold a central list of officers that have been charged with a criminal offence. If a serving Officer becomes the offender in a criminal investigation, in most cases, there would be a parallel misconduct investigation which would hold the details of the matter. To provide a response to this request would require manually reviewing and extracting information from each personnel record for every Officer within the Force.

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 –

Our current media policy is the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice on Media Relations. This contains a section on the police officers charged with criminal offences - <https://www.college.police.uk/app/engagement-and-communication/media-relations#police-under-investigation>.

The section is backed up by the additional information under [Police under investigation | College of Policing](#) which details what information should be released and when about officers charged with a criminal offence.

Misconduct Hearing process is legislated and set in regulations; for other hearings it is the Chair of the Hearing that decides whether an officer will be named for a Hearing,

- Reg 36 The Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020

Public notification of misconduct hearings

36. (1) The person chairing a misconduct hearing ("the chair") may require the appropriate authority or, as the case may be, the originating authority, to give notice of the hearing which contains information relating to one or more of—
- (a) the name of the officer concerned;

All information on Misconduct hearings can be found on our website –

<https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/mis/misconduct-hearings/>

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

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

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/>