

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXX – By email

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

Date 25th March 2025

Our Ref FOI 2025-337

Dear XXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24th March 2025, concerning violent crimes.

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:

I would like data from January 2022 to the most recent data you have on:

1. The number of under 18s charged with violent crimes.
2. The number of those who were previously known to police.
3. The number of those who were known to police owing to calls or incidents logged from their family home.
4. The number of 18-21 year old's charged with violent crimes.
5. The number of those who were previously known to police.
6. The number of those who were known to police owing to calls or incidents logged from their family home.

Violent crimes definition: Murder and manslaughter (unlawful killing of another person) Sexual Offences: Rape, sexual assault, and other forms of non-consensual sexual acts Assault Offences involving a knife or sharp instrument Robbery Aggravated assault Kidnapping

Our response:

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.

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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 is not stored in a way which permits for easy retrieval. In order to provide a response to your questions surrounding whether suspects were previously known to police and whether those previous incidents were reported from their family home, we would be required to manually review each occurrence and each suspect's previous records if applicable. Within the requested time frame, there are over 500 occurrences.

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:

1.

ReportedAge: Under 18					
Count of PersonId	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Assault constable - ABH	1				1
Assault Constable - assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3	4	9		16
Assault emergency worker - actual bodily harm (Sec 47)	1		1		2
Assault emergency worker - malicious wounding (Sec 20)		1			1

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Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Sec 47)	4	8	4		16
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	9				9
Assault of a female 13 or over by penetration		1			1
Assault or assault by beating of a constable	2	7	8		17
Assault or assault by beating of a constable (Assaults on Emergency Workers (Offences) Act 2018 Sec 1)	7				7
Assault or assault by beating of an emergency worker (except a constable)			3		3
Attempt murder		1			1
Attempted rape of a female child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	1				1
Breach of restraining order (harassment)	2				2
Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	6				6
Common Assault and Battery	8	11	9	1	29
False imprisonment	1	3	3		7
Malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (Sec 20)	1	2			3
Murder of a person aged 1 year or older	2				2
Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking	1				1
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating	1				1
Rape of a female aged under 16		3	2		5
Require person to perform forced or compulsory labour		1			1
Robbery - personal	3				3
Robbery business		1			1
Robbery personal	5	9	3		17
Send communication threatening death or serious harm			1		1
Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety		1			1
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over		1	2		3

Threats to kill	2	2			4
Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Sec 18)	3	12	7		22
Grand Total	63	68	52	1	184

2.

ReportedAge: 18-21					
Count of PersonId	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Arrange or facilitate travel of another person with a view to exploitation	1				1
Arrange/facilitate sexual activity with a child/incite a child to engage - penetration			1		1
Assault constable - ABH	6				6
Assault Constable - assault occasioning actual bodily harm	6	13	8		27
Assault constable - wounding with intent to do GBH (Sec 18)			1		1
Assault emergency worker - ABH	1				1
Assault emergency worker - actual bodily harm (Sec 47)		1	4		5
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Sec 47)	18	27	19		64
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (Section 47)	12				12
Assault or assault by beating of a constable	7	26	22	4	59
Assault or assault by beating of a constable (Assaults on Emergency Workers (Offences) Act 2018 Sec 1)	7				7
Assault or assault by beating of an emergency worker (except a constable)	2	3	3		8
Assault with intent to resist apprehension	1				1
Attempt murder	1				1
Breach of restraining order (harassment)		2			2
Causing or inciting a child under 16 to engage in sexual activity: female victim - no penetration, age of offender 18 years or over		1			1
Common assault (S39) and assault without injury (Class 105A)	3				3

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Common Assault and Battery	8	20	9	3	40
Engage in controlling/coercive behaviour in an intimate family relationship	1	1			2
Engage in sexual communication with a child		1			1
Exposure			1	1	2
False imprisonment		1			1
Harassment		3	2		5
Kidnapping	1				1
Malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm (Sec 20)	2	1			3
Non-fatal strangulation and suffocation	3	4	2	1	10
Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking	1	1			2
Putting people in fear of violence (harassment)	1				1
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating		1			1
Rape of a female aged 16 or over	2				2
Rape of a female aged under 16	1	1	1		3
Rape of a female child under 13 by a male		1			1
Rape of a female child under 13 by a male (S5 SOA 2003)	1				1
Robbery - personal	2				2
Robbery business		1	2		3
Robbery personal		3	1	1	5
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	1				1
Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety	3	1	1		5
Sexual assault of a female child under 13 (S3, SOA 2003)	1				1
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over	1	3	1		5
Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over (S3, SOA 2003)	2				2
Sexual assault on a male aged 13 or over			1		1
Stalking involving fear of violence	2		2	1	5

Stalking involving serious alarm/distress		1			1
Stalking without fear/alarm/distress	1				1
Threats to kill	3	1	1		5
Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Sec 18)	3	7	6		16
Grand Total	105	125	88	11	329

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