

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXX – Via email



Police Headquarters

London Road

DEVIZES

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: 28th April 2025

Our ref: FOI 2025-407

Reply contact name:

Dear XXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14th April 2025 regarding sexual assault.

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 able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

1. The number of reported incidents of:
 - a) Rape or attempted rape (Section 1 of the Sexual Offences Act)
 - b) Sexual assault by penetration (Section 2 of the Sexual Offences Act)
 - c) Sexual assault (Section 3 of the Sexual Offences Act)
 - d) Stalking (Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act)
 - e) Harassment (Section 2a of the Protection from Harassment Act)

where the free text associated with the incident report contains any of the following the words: 'online dating', 'internet dating', 'tinder', 'bumble', 'feeld', 'match.com', 'hinge', 'eharmony', 'dating app' or 'plenty of fish'

We would like this information for 1 Jan 2024 to 31 December 2024 (1 year), or the most recent 12-month period available.

2. Of all the reported incidents of sexual assault, rape, and stalking (etc) made to your constabulary in the most recent 12-month period, what proportion involved

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cases where the victim first met or connected with the perpetrator through a dating app?

Our response:

1.

Act	Distinct Count of Occ Number
Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 1	0
Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 2	0
Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 3	0
Protection from Harassment Act 1997 Sec 2	1
Protection from Harassment Act 1997 Sec 2A (1) as inserted by Protection of Freedoms Act 2012	1

2.

Crime SubGroup	% of offences with wildcard
Other Sexual Offences	0.00%
Rape	0.00%
Stalking And Harassment	0.10%
Grand Total	0.06%

Please note:

- The data for both questions was obtained by completing a summary search for the terms "online dating", "internet dating", "finder", "bumble", "feeld", "match.com", "hinge", "eharmony", "dating app" and "plenty of fish". The results of these types of searches may be unreliable and inaccurate as only the summary field of the report is searched. If these terms are contained elsewhere (i.e. within the call log, crime report, statements etc) these will not be returned in the results. Additionally, if the term is misspelt within the summary field, this will not be returned. To provide accurate results would require a manual search of each crime within the specified timeframe to deem if they were relevant to your request.
- The data provided is from the most recent 12-month period: 01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and 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**

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