

**Police Headquarters**

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 13th June 2025

Our ref: FOI 2025/552

I write in connection with your request for information dated 2nd June 2025 concerning fox hunting.

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:

1. A figure for the number of incidents of fox hunting recorded in your force area between 01/08/2024 and 31/04/2025.
2. A figure for the number of times police officers attended an incident or report of fox hunting in your force area between 01/08/2024 and 31/04/2025.
3. If possible, the dates of any incidents and attendances along with any location details (e.g. partial postcode).

To clarify what I mean by the terms used in this request:

- 'Incidents' – reports of fox hunting made by the public, other agencies or recorded by police officers, whether attended or not.
- 'Attendances' – occasions where police officers have attended a report of fox hunting whether that be in response to a call from the public or as part of a pre-planned operation / police generated activity.
- 'Fox hunting' – traditional, organised 'red coat' hunting where horses and / or hounds are used to chase a fox or follow a pre-laid scent trail.

I understand that very few police forces have a recording code or category for fox hunting and that a free text search may be the only way to extract this data from your systems. The following search terms are therefore suggested:

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- 'hunt'
- 'hunting'
- 'fox hunting'
- 'red coat hunting'
- 'fox hunt'
- 'hounds'
- 'trail hunting'
- 'terrier'

Response:

Please note, this information was obtained by reading the occurrence summary for all incidents flagged as 'rural crime' to locate those involving fox hunting.

- 1) X14
- 2) X4
- 3)

Start Date	Post Code
02/11/2024	SN11
02/11/2024	SN14
09/11/2024	Not Given
14/11/2024	Not Given
16/11/2024	SN14
28/11/2024	SN15
14/12/2024	GL9
14/12/2024	SN12
14/12/2024	SN12
18/12/2024	SN4
21/01/2025	BA12
03/02/2025	Not Given
05/02/2025	SN5
28/02/2025	SN16

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

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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



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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

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

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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/>