

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.uk

disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 21st July 2025

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2025 / 682

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19th July 2025 concerning Long Newton Station.

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 – having consulted our Facilities Team Force Archivists - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

I am researching Police station at Long Newton, which is now in Gloucestershire but for a long time in Wiltshire.

I am after any information for example officers based there or when the station closed.

Our response:

The information that you are requesting is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval.

Long **Newnton** was one of a number of small parishes that were formally transferred from Wiltshire to Gloucestershire in the 1930's.

The ascertaining of the information you require would only be possible by working through all the relevant material held in our archive facilities to locate any information that meets your criteria and make a note of it.

Given the number of those records and the fact that they are held in a vast number of places around the County, 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



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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.

It should also be noted that there is no obligation on an Authority to create information where none currently exists today, simply to answer an FOI request.

However, under our Section 16 duty to be as helpful as possible to an applicant, I am happy to provide you with the following information :-

- Any information held regarding Long Newnton Station clearly pre-dates all current electronic system(s) and – if held – would only be retained somewhere in one or more of our various Archive facilities dotted around the County.
- Our Heritage Team have recently commenced a project to document the history of Wiltshire Police. As I am sure you will imagine, this is an immense undertaking and will take a significant amount of time to complete as numerous records are held in stations around the County, in various archive sites around the Force and also known anecdotally. There is currently no time frame for the completion of this exercise and – in all likelihood – it is probably going to take a number of years to compile a full and complete record of Wiltshire Police (and indeed it is likely to be an ongoing process as new material gradually comes to light).
- We would recommend – for the moment – that you undertake research with the relevant Local Councils and/or Parish records (and also history books) to identify as much information as possible – if you have not done so already.

Ordinarily under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the 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.

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,

Nick Penny
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
Telephone 101 ext 62005

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.pnn.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
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk