

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by email

Date: 25th July 2025

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2025 / 706

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23rd July 2025 concerning Restraining Orders and DVPO's.

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 not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

ITV News would like to request the following information:

- 1) For 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, how many breaches of restraining orders were recorded?

How many of the breaches recorded resulted in a no further action outcome?

How many of the breaches recorded resulted in a charge?

- 2) For 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, how many breaches of domestic violence protection orders were recorded?



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

How many of the breaches recorded resulted in a no further action outcome?

How many of the breaches recorded resulted in a charge?

Our response:

The information that you are requesting for Question 2 is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval.

Whilst our crime recording systems are fairly sophisticated and contain a number of dedicated fields in which specific information related to a crime or incident are recorded (eg suspect name, victim dob, witness ethnicity etc) – and which searches can then theoretically be undertaken on – we do not have a specific field in which we record the following :-

- a) Whether a DVPO was issued on an occurrence
- b) Whether it was subsequently broken and – if so- what was the outcome

At the moment we do not have a statutory obligation or requirement to keep a record of this information separately and as a consequence we do not make any tangible effort to record it in isolation.

If we held this information, it would only be recorded within the narrative of the occurrence log or in other documents associated with the occurrence, such as statements etc. To locate the information you require would necessitate every Domestic Violence log being located and read for the time period you require and the relevant details recorded that meet your criteria.

For the time period you require, we have recorded c36,000 individual crimes that have been flagged as being Domestic Abuse related.

Even allowing a very conservative 2 minutes per record to undertake this task, locating the information you require would take c1,200 hours to undertake.

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident therefore 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 also note that ordinarily if one part of a 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.

However, 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 :-

Question 1

The information you require is shown in the table below :-

Restraining Order Breaches			
Year	Number	Charged	NFA
2020	72	36	36
2021	78	51	27
2022	94	52	42
2023	116	73	43
2024	87	46	41

Ordinarily under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request in respect of questions 2 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