

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXXXX

By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**

London Road

DEVIZES

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Date 15th August 2025

Our Ref FOI 2025-776

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 8th August 2025, concerning child abduction and kidnapping.

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 the Business Intelligence department at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

I'm writing to you to request data on police recorded offences of child abduction and kidnapping for the latest financial year **2024/25**.

Specifically, I'd be very grateful if you could supply the following information:

1. From 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, how many crimes¹ of **child abduction by a parent** (Home Office classification² 13/01) were recorded in Wiltshire Police?
2. From 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, how many crimes¹ of **child abduction by other persons** (Home Office classification² 13/02) were recorded in Wiltshire Police?
3. From 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, how many crimes¹ of **kidnapping** (Home Office classification² 36/01) – **when the victim was aged under 18 at the time of the offence** – were recorded in Wiltshire Police? **Please note: I only want to collect data on 36/01 offences**; not the other 36 sub-categories (36/02, 36/03, 36/04 etc.).

For each of these three figures (questions 1, 2 and 3 above) please can you indicate how many of the offences were flagged as Child Sexual Abuse, and how many were flagged as Child Sexual Exploitation³.

I'm looking for information on crimes recorded rather than 'incidents'.

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

²Home Office classification number refers to the Counting Rules:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counting-rules-for-recorded-crime>

³As per Home Office Counting Rules (2024/25), page 26:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67ee9b2a199d1cd55b48c769/crime-recording-rules-for-frontline-officers-and-staff-2025_26-april-2025-update.pdf

Our response:

HO_Code	Distinct Count of OccNo	Flagged as CSE or CSA
13/1 (Q1)	1	0
13/2 (Q2)	3	1
36/1 (Q3)	4	0
Grand Total	8	1

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,

FDU 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



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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 Fol 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

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 to contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

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