

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXX
Sent via email: XXX



Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 11/11/25

Our ref: FOI 2025/1010

Reply contact name: XXX

Dear XXX

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/10/22 concerning enforcement of the Dangerous Dogs Act 199.

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 (and our response):

Please provide data held by your force for the period 1 January 2020 to the present date, covering the following:

Dog Seizures

- The total number of dogs seized under:
 - a) Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
 - b) Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

Please provide totals for each calendar year.

262 Dogs seized in total as of now-combined results for (a) and (b)

2020 – 15

2021 – 26

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2022 – 23

2023 – 29

2024 – 72

2025 so far – 97 at the time of writing this

Incident Reports

- The total number of incidents recorded or reported under Section 3 of the Act (i.e. dogs dangerously out of control) for the same period.

Data from 1st January 2020 – 31st October 2025:

Offence Description	Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	
	Reported Year	Month
	Crimes	Non-Crime Incident
May-2022	19	
Jun-2022	43	
Jul-2022	44	
Aug-2022	32	
Sep-2022	39	
Oct-2022	43	
Nov-2022	20	
Dec-2022	11	
Jan-2023	23	
Feb-2023	21	
Mar-2023	32	
Apr-2023	33	
May-2023	43	
Jun-2023	41	
Jul-2023	40	
Aug-2023	42	
Sep-2023	38	
Oct-2023	29	
Nov-2023	21	1
Dec-2023	10	
Jan-2024	22	
Feb-2024	21	
Mar-2024	36	
Apr-2024	37	
May-2024	32	
Jun-2024	47	
Jul-2024	41	

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Aug-2024	43	
Sep-2024	41	
Oct-2024	35	
Nov-2024	33	
Dec-2024	33	
Jan-2025	23	
Feb-2025	25	
Mar-2025	40	
Apr-2025	44	
May-2025	38	
Jun-2025	54	
Jul-2025	55	
Aug-2025	51	
Sep-2025	47	
Oct-2025	38	
Total	1460	1

Public Reports

- The total number of reports or complaints received from members of the public alleging a dog to be of a prohibited type under Section 1 for the same period.

Please note: the search facility in reporting logs relies on incident types and closure codes. The force has applied a crime closure code and the key word of "Dog" and located the following count:

Year	Count
2020	30
2021	38
2022	33
2023	45
2024	37
2025	50

Please note: there are significantly more incidents with dogs mentioned, however due to the limitations of search, there is no way to identify, without checking each record individually, how many of these alleged the dog was a prohibited type. The difference in reporting logs and local crime system records is likely due to reporting processes and the need to allocate reports of dangerous dogs to an appropriately trained officer from the outset.

Within the local crime system, the following was found, please note: the classification wording changed in 2022, which means the crime classification changed in that time. We have included all recorded crimes involving dogs for the requested period.

Year	Count
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2020	311
2021	381
2022	441
2023	418
2024	482
2025	479

Current Custody Data (2025)

- The total number of dogs currently held in police kennels under (a) Section 1 and under (b) Section 3.

29 in kennels

4 on IES

- What is the maximum capacity of kennel space for your force and does you force operate the IES - if so how many S1 dogs are currently under this scheme

31 kennel spaces

Breed or Type Breakdown

- Where recorded, a breakdown of the breeds or types of dogs seized under Section 3 since 1 January 2020.

2020-2025:

3 Akitas

2 AM Bully's

4 American Bulldogs

89 American Pitbull Terriers

4 Border Collies

39 Crossbreeds

3 English Bull Terriers

9 German Shepherds

9 Greyhounds/Lurchers/Whippets

1 Jack Russell

3 Mastiff Crosses

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84 Other Breeds

3 Mastiffs

6 Pocket Bully's

6 Rottweilers

25 SBT Cross

38 Staffordshire bull terriers

65 XL Bully's

Kenneling Costs

- The average daily cost to kennel and care for a seized dog.
- Whether these costs differ depending on whether a dog is seized under Section 1 or Section 3.

£31 per kennel. All the dangerous dogs are now at one location where the force pay the fixed daily rate for 30 kennels whether that be seized under Section 1 or 3.

Dog Legislation Officers (DLOs)

- Whether the force employs or assigns a dedicated Dog Legislation Officer (DLO) or equivalent role responsible for cases under either (a) Section 1 and/or (b) Section 3. Or will a DLO cover both?
- If applicable, the number of DLOs currently employed or assigned within your force.

Two full time DLO's and that's their dedicated role.

Kenneling Arrangements

- Please confirm whether seized dogs are:
 - a) Held in police-operated facilities, or
 - b) Housed with contracted third-party kennels, rescues, or welfare organisations.

Please advise the total number of spaces for a and b.

Secure kennels approved by the local council. No police kennels operated. Kennel spaces have been answered under custody data.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed on 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
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Force 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



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

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