

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXX
XXX



Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 23/12/25

Our ref: FOI 2025/1125

Reply contact name is: XXX

Dear XXX

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/11/25 concerning domestic abuse suicides.

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:

Could you please confirm how many suspects have been arrested on suspicion of manslaughter following a suicide after domestic abuse over the past five years? (2020 - 2025, inclusive).

Could you please confirm the status of these investigations in each case? eg. charged, NFA, RUI.

Could you please break these figures down year by year?

Clarification

I've been made aware there is a typo in this. I wanted to know how many suspects have been arrested.

And I'm referring to domestic abuse suicides where a DA victim has taken their own life, and the suspected DA/DV perpetrator has been arrested on suspicion of manslaughter.

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

Response:

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. The release of information under Freedom of Information (FOI) is a release into the public domain and not just to the individual requesting the information. Once information is disclosed by FOI there is no control or limits as to who or how the information is shared with other individuals, therefore a release under FOI is considered a disclosure to the world in general.

Wiltshire Police are neither able to confirm nor deny whether any relevant information is held or not in relation to your Freedom of Information request, by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 30(3) – Investigations

Section 40(5) – Personal Information

Section 30 is a class based qualified exemption and consideration of the public interest must be given as to whether neither confirming nor denying that information exists is the appropriate response.

Factors favouring complying with section 1(1)(a) confirming that information is held

Confirming or denying that information exists relevant to this request would lead to a better-informed public, improving their knowledge and understanding of how the Police Service conduct investigations.

Factors against complying with section 1(1)(a) confirming that information is held

To confirm or deny whether any information is held relating to this request has the potential of undermining the flow of information (intelligence) received from members of the public into the Police Service. This would hinder the prevention and detection of crime and affect the Force's law enforcement ability.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide 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. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemptions applied:

Section 30(3) – Investigations

Section 40(5) – Personal Information

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

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

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/>