

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXX – Via email



Police Headquarters

London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: 27th January 2026

Our ref: FOI 2026-055

Dear XXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13th January regarding seized dogs.

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 unit and finance at Wiltshire Police.

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

You wrote:

For each calendar year from 2019 to 2025, please provide the following information. If information is not held by calendar year, please supply figures by financial year instead.

1. Dogs seized by police

For the avoidance of doubt, please exclude stray dogs handled on behalf of local authorities. Please include only dogs seized by the police in connection with criminal investigations, public-safety incidents, or powers under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

1a. The number of dogs seized by the force.

1b. If recorded in an extractable format, the number of dogs seized, broken down by the reason for seizure (e.g., Dangerous Dogs Act, owner arrested, welfare grounds, other policing powers).

If this is not recorded in a structured form, please instead state so".

1c. The number of dogs seized, split by suspected breed

1d. The number of seized dogs that were destroyed.

1e.. If recorded in an extractable format, the number of seized dogs that were destroyed split by suspected breed.

2. Kennelling

2a. The total annual expenditure by the force on kennelling dogs seized by police (as defined above) for each year.

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

If kennelling costs are not separately coded or cannot be isolated from wider animal-handling or contract costs, please state this.

Our response:

1a. The number of dogs seized by the force

	Number of Dogs Seized
2019	15
2020	15
2021	22
2022	23
2023	24
2024	71
2025	110
Grand Total	275

1b. the number of dogs seized, broken down by the reason for seizure

	Dangerous / Banned Breed	Owner Arrested	Poaching / Coursing	Welfare	Grand Total
2019	7		8		15
2020	13		2		15
2021	22				22
2022	19		2	2	23
2023	19		1	4	24
2024	65		1	5	71
2025	88	9	6	7	110
Grand Total	228	9	20	18	275

1c. The number of dogs seized, split by suspected breed

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
ABD x Staffy	1							1
Akita						1	2	3
American Bulldog			1	1	1	1	3	7
American Pitbull Terrier	3	6	7	8	2	10	14	49
Belgian Malinois x Dutch Herder				1				1
Border Collie				1	1		3	5
Bulldog							1	1
Cane Corso							2	2
Caucasian shepherd								1
Central Asian Shepherd				1				1
Chow Chow					1			1
Crossbreed		2	4		3	5	20	33
Doberman			1					1
English Bull Terrier						1		1
French Bulldog			1	1		1	1	4
German Shepherd			4		4	2	4	14
German Shepherd x Husky			1					1
German Shepherd Cross			1					1
Greyhound/Lurcher/Whippet				3	1		7	11
GSD x Labrador x Mali				1	1			2
Hungarian Vizsla						1		1
Husky		1				1		2
Husky Cross					1	1		2
Jack Russell	1					1		2

Lurcher	4	2				1		7
Lurcher x Saluki	2							2
Malamute				1				1
Mastiff Cross				1	1		3	3
Not Recorded			1		2			3
Other Mastiff							1	1
Pocket BULLY						1	5	6
Pointer		2						2
Retriever							1	1
Rottweiler				1	1	2	2	6
Rottweiler x German Shepherd		1						1
Shih tzu Cross				1				1
Spaniel							3	3
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	2	1	1	2	1	4	6	16
Terrier							2	2
Unspecified cross breed					1			1
US Bully						1		1
Weimaraner							1	1
Whippet	2							2
XL BULLY						36	29	66
XL BULLY / AM BULLY					3	1		4
XL Pocket bully			1					1
Grand Total	15	15	22	23	24	71	110	275

1d. The number of seized dogs that were destroyed

	Dog Destroyed
2019	3
2020	7
2021	5
2022	9
2023	7
2024	17
2025	36
Grand Total	84

1e. the number of seized dogs that were destroyed split by suspected breed

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Akita							1	1
American Bulldog			1	1	1		1	4
American Pitbull Terrier	1	4		4		4	7	20
Belgian Malinois x Dutch Herder				1				1
Border Collie							1	1
Cane Corso							1	1
Central Asian Shepherd				1				1
Chow Chow					1			1
Crossbreed		1	3		2	1	6	13
German Shepherd			1		1	1	1	4
Jack Russell	1							1
Malamute				1				1

Mastiff Cross							3	3
Not Recorded					1			1
Pocket BULLY						1	2	3
Pointer		2						2
Retriever							1	1
Rottweiler				1			1	2
Spaniel							1	1
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	1					2	1	4
Weimaraner							1	1
XL BULLY						7	8	15
XL BULLY / AM BULLY					1	1		2

2a. The total annual expenditure

Year	Cost
2019	39,125
2020	38,771
2021	35,612
2022	33,121
2023	41,987
2024	268,703
2025	421,128

Please note, the amounts stated are the total costs of kenneling dangerous dogs for each calendar year. Total costs include kenneling and associated vets' fees whilst the dogs are in kennels. In 2024, due to demand, the Force started to pay a month fee for a set number of kennels. The number of kennels has steadily increased since hence the significant increase in costs.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and 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

Keeping Wiltshire Safe