

# WILTSHIRE POLICE



## Police Headquarters

London Road  
DEVIZES  
Wiltshire  
SN10 2DN

Date: April 29, 2026

Our ref: FOI 2026/173

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 concerning female homicide victims.

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:**

Please could you provide us with a list of all female victims of homicide killed between 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025 (inclusive) which your authority has been responsible for investigating and, for each victim:

- the date of the homicide;
- the names of the victims and the accused / perpetrator;
- the age of the victim;
- the ethnicity/race of the victim;
- the relationship between the accused and the victim;
- the sex of the accused / perpetrator;
- the ethnicity/race of the perpetrator;
- if identified, the way in which the victim was killed;

- whether there were any previous reports from the victim (or any third party) regarding the accused / perpetrator; and
- whether there were any previous reports and / or convictions of any other offences related to violence against women perpetrated by the accused / perpetrator.

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## **Response:**

The information that you are requesting for Questions One to Eight are exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 30(1) – Investigations

Section 40(2) – Personal Information

Section 30 is a prejudice based and qualified exemption, therefore the harm (prejudice) in disclosure should be evidenced and the public interest given.

## **Overall Harm**

Although every effort should be made to release information under the Freedom of Information Act, to disclose this type of information would prejudice any investigations, whether current or future. Although there is a public interest in the transparency of policing, especially in relation to investigations, this is countered by the need to protect any current or future investigations.

Furthermore, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police investigations. This, in turn, would reassure the public that the police are highly secure and would not disclose any information to the world, not just the requester, which may jeopardise any investigation.

## **Public Interest Considerations**

### **Section 30**

#### **Factors Favouring Disclosure**

The disclosure of this information would lead to a better-informed public and promote trust by demonstrating openness, transparency and accountability.

#### **Factors Against Disclosure**

Disclosing this information would provide to the world, not just the requester, information which may prejudice current or future investigations. This would highlight that Wiltshire Police does not take the security and integrity of its investigations seriously, which would cause a large drop in public confidence. This would lead to people not wanting to report incidents and engage with police investigations.

## **Balance Test**

The above points highlight both the merits and issues with disclosing the requested information. Overall the police service is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. Because of this, Wiltshire Police will not divulge any information if to do so would prejudice our investigative capabilities.

The public interest is very largely in favour of non-disclosure for these reasons.

This would only be overridden in exceptional circumstances, which this Freedom of Information request is not.

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Section 40 is a class based absolute exemption, for that reason there is no requirement to articulate the harm in disclosure or a requirement for the public interest test. However, disclosing the information would breach the Data Protection Act 2018, specifically Principle One (Fairness).

Regarding Questions Nine and Ten, Wiltshire Police can neither confirm nor deny whether any information is held relevant as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the FOIA does not apply by virtue of Section 40(5).

No inference can be taken from this refusal that any information relevant to these Questions does or does not exist.

However, under our Section 16 obligation to provide advice and assistance, please see the below links which relate to your request:

[Girl, 13, remains under investigation for Swindon murder - BBC News](#)

[Provisional murder trial date set over Christmas Day death - BBC News](#)

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(1) – Investigations

Section 40(2) – Personal Information

Section 40(5) – Personal Information

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,

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](mailto: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:

**Keeping Wiltshire Safe**

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](mailto: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/>**