



**Police Headquarters**  
London Road  
DEVIZES  
Wiltshire  
SN10 2DN

Date: April 16, 2026

**Our ref: FOI 2026/320**

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 concerning theft of motor vehicles.

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:**

1. A yearly breakdown of the total number of 'theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle' offences reported in your policing area during the periods:

1st April 2019 - March 31st 2020  
1st April 2020 - March 31st 2021  
1st April 2021 - March 31st 2022  
1st April 2022 - March 31st 2023  
1st April 2023 - March 31st 2024  
1st April 2024 - March 31st 2025  
1st April 2025 - March 31st 2026

2. Please provide all recorded outcomes for the results of Q1 above using the same yearly periods.

Q1 I have asked for the latest period to run until 31st March 2026 which I feel is an achievable request as the data for the period ending 31st March 2026 should be available by the time of your response.

Q2 NOTE: For forces in England and Wales please record the answers to Q2 using the same 22 outcomes as outlined in the Crime outcomes in England and Wales: Technical

annex.

**Response:**

**Question One**

| <b>Distinct Count of OccNo</b> | <b>Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle</b> | <b>Theft of a motor vehicle</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>2019-2020</b>               | 503                                                    |                                 |
| <b>2020-2021</b>               | 390                                                    |                                 |
| <b>2021-2022</b>               | 428                                                    |                                 |
| <b>2022-2023</b>               | 40                                                     | 439                             |
| <b>2023-2024</b>               |                                                        | 469                             |
| <b>2024-2025</b>               |                                                        | 493                             |
| <b>2025-2026</b>               |                                                        | 469                             |

**Question Two**

| <b>Distinct Count of OccNo</b>                                                                      | <b>2019-2020</b> | <b>2020-2021</b> | <b>2021-2022</b> | <b>2022-2023</b> | <b>2023-2024</b> | <b>2024-2025</b> | <b>2025-2026</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>1: Charged</b>                                                                                   | 18               | 10               | 10               | 9                | 7                | 4                | 4                |
| <b>1: Summoned/postal requisition</b>                                                               | 14               | 20               | 7                | 4                | 3                | 2                | 4                |
| <b>12: Named suspect identified but is dead or too ill (physical or mental health) to prosecute</b> |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | 1                |
| <b>13: Named suspect but victim/key witness deceased or too ill</b>                                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | 1                |                  |
| <b>14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender</b>                            | 3                | 5                | 12               | 5                | 9                | 4                | 2                |
| <b>15: CPS - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties</b>                         | 3                | 7                | 2                | 7                | 3                | 2                |                  |
| <b>15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties</b>                      | 50               | 49               | 63               | 39               | 36               | 45               | 26               |
| <b>16: Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified</b>                             | 71               | 44               | 44               | 49               | 31               | 28               | 29               |
| <b>17: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit expired</b>                                    |                  | 2                | 1                |                  |                  |                  |                  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>18: Investigation complete no suspect identified</b>                                                                                                                        | 331 | 242 | 281 | 360 | 366 | 390 | 321 |
| <b>1A: Alternate offence charged</b>                                                                                                                                           | 1   | 4   | 1   | 2   |     | 5   | 1   |
| <b>1A: Alternate offence summonsed/postal requisition</b>                                                                                                                      | 4   | 1   |     | 2   | 3   | 1   | 1   |
| <b>2: Youth conditional caution</b>                                                                                                                                            |     |     | 1   |     |     |     |     |
| <b>20: Other body/agency has investigation primacy</b>                                                                                                                         | 1   |     | 1   | 1   | 1   |     |     |
| <b>21: Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest</b>                                                                                                    | 2   |     | 1   |     | 1   | 1   | 4   |
| <b>22: Diversionary, educational or intervention activity, resulting from crime reports, has been undertaken and is not in the public interest to take any further action.</b> |     |     |     | 1   |     |     |     |
| <b>3: Adult caution</b>                                                                                                                                                        | 2   | 1   |     |     |     |     |     |
| <b>3: Adult conditional caution</b>                                                                                                                                            |     |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| <b>4: TIC (taken into consideration)</b>                                                                                                                                       | 2   | 1   |     |     |     |     |     |
| <b>5: Offender has died</b>                                                                                                                                                    |     | 1   |     |     | 1   |     |     |
| <b>8: Community resolution</b>                                                                                                                                                 | 1   | 2   | 2   |     | 2   |     | 2   |
| <b>8: Youth restorative disposal</b>                                                                                                                                           |     |     |     |     | 1   |     | 3   |
| <b>New - Under Investigation</b>                                                                                                                                               |     | 1   | 2   |     | 5   | 10  | 70  |

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 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:

**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/>**