

# WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via Email



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

Date 18/05/2026

**Our ref** FOI 2026/431

Reply contact name is: XXXX

Dear XXXX

I write in connection with your request for information, dated 07/05/2026, 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.

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted with the Major Crime Investigation Team of Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and it is not possible to meet your requirements in full.

## **You wrote:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request a detailed breakdown of data regarding female homicide victims recorded by your force between **1st January 2018, to the present day.**

To ensure national consistency, I am requesting the same dataset your force previously provided to the **Femicide Census** and/or the **National Domestic Homicide Project**. Please provide the following information in an Excel (.xlsx) or CSV format:

1. **Annual Totals:** The total number of homicide cases where the victim was female, broken down by calendar year from 2018- present.
2. **Relationship to Suspect:** For each victim, record the principal suspect's relationship (e.g., Partner, Ex-partner, Parent, Child, Sibling, Other Family, Acquaintance, Stranger, or Unknown/Not Recorded).
3. **Prior Police Contact (12-Month Window):** For each case, state whether any police contact was recorded in the 12 months preceding the homicide. Please clarify if this contact was:
  - o Between the victim and the suspect specifically.

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- Involved the suspect in relation to other domestic abuse incidents.
4. **Suspect Gender:** The sex of the principal suspect/offender for each female homicide case.

**Our response:**

	ANNUAL TOTALS	RELATIONSHIP TO SUSPECT	PRIOR POLICE CONTACT (12 MONTH WINDOW)	SUSPECT GENDER
2018	0			
2019	2	1 x Girlfriend, 1 x Unknown	NO	1 x Male, 1 x Unknown
2020	2	1 x Ex-wife, 1 x Daughter	NO	2 x Same Male
2021	1	1 x Daughter	YES BUT NOT DOMESTIC ABUSE RELATED	1 x Male
2022	0			
2023	0			
2024	0			
2025	2	Please see exemption		Both Female
2026	0			

Under section 16 of the act to provide assistance where possible I can provide the following information:

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

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

The relationships between the suspect and victims for the 2025 offences are exempt by virtue of **Section 30(1) – Investigations.**

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**

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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.

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.

Exemption applied:

### **Section 30(1) – Investigations.**

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](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.

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#### 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](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/>