



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ
London Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN
Tel 101 ext 62005

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disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 16th July 2026

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2026 / 626

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 7th July 2026 concerning Animal-related Crimes and Incidents.

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 – having consulted our Business Intelligence Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and Our Response)

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. The count of offences of "animal-related" crime you recorded on your system in 2025/26. Please see below for our exact definition of "animal-related" crime.

493

2. Total count of offences of "animal-related" crime you recorded on your system in 2025/26, by offence code.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

HO Crime	Number
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in E&W (whether or not in public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	470
Possession of extreme pornographic images - a person performing an act of intercourse or oral sex with an animal (whether dead or alive) (bestiality)	9
Intercourse with an animal by a male	1
Intercourse with an animal by a female	1
Causing, permitting or failing to prevent unnecessary suffering of protected animal	12
TOTAL	493

3. Total count of offences of "animal-related" crime you recorded in 2025/26, by outcome.

Outcome Type	Crimes
1: Charged	4
1: Summoned/postal requisition	8
10: Police - formal action not in public interest	2
14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	9
15: CPS - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	2
15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	63
16: Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified	79
18: Investigation complete no suspect identified	133
20: Other body/agency has investigation primacy	15
21: Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest	31
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.	3
3: Adult caution	1
3: Adult conditional caution	2
8: Community resolution	128
8: Youth restorative disposal	1
9: CPS - prosecution not in public interest	1
New (Currently Open / Live)	11
TOTAL	493

4. Total number of incidents recorded as "Animals/wildlife" in 2025/26.

1

5. The total number of calls with a call type 'animal', 'wildlife' or 'animal/wildlife' within STORM (if STORM is used) in 2025/26.

1,133

6. Any known reason for why recorded reports might be lower than true volume of incidents.

Under the FOIA there is no obligation on an Authority to provide an opinion.

Please provide this data for the 2025/26 financial year (date range 01/04/2025 - 31/03/2026).

For the purposes of this request, we define "animal-related crime" as any incident which is logged against any of the following pieces of legislation:

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963; Animal Health Act 1981; Animal Welfare Act 2006; Dangerous Dogs Act 1991; Deer Act 1991 Sec 1, 2, 3; Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953; Game Act 1831 Sec 30; Hunting Act 2004 Sec 1, 3(1), 5; Night Poaching Act 1828 Sec 1; Pet Abduction Act 2024 Sec 1 and 2; Poaching Prevention Act 1862 Sec 2; Protection of Badgers Act 1992; Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975; Sea Fishing (Enforcement of Community Quota Measures) Order 1988; Sea Fishing (Prohibition on Removal of Shark Fins) Order 2007 Sec 4,5,12; Sexual Offences Act 2003 Sec 69(1)(3) and Sec 69(2)(3); The Control of Dogs Order 1992; Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966; Welfare of Farmed Animals Regulations 2007; Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996; Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

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,

Nick Penny
Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



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Telephone 101 ext 62005

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.pnn.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:

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