

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.ukdisclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by email

Date: 20th July 2026

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2026 / 669

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17th July 2026 concerning Domestic Burglaries.

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 not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

For the calendar year 2025:

- * The total number of recorded residential burglaries and, if available, by month
- * The days of the week ranked by frequency of residential burglaries.
- * The 10 most commonly recorded categories of property stolen during residential burglaries, together with the number of recorded thefts for each category.
- * Breakdown of residential burglaries by property type, where recorded (e.g. detached, semi-detached, terraced, flat/apartment)
- * A breakdown of residential burglaries by method of entry, using categories recorded by the service e.g. unlocked doors/windows, forced entry

Please note domestic dwelling data would be welcomed if it is the term used by the service as opposed to domestic.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Our response:

The information that you are requesting for the majority of your request (namely questions 3,4 and 5) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval.

Whilst our crime recording systems are fairly sophisticated and contain a number of searchable fields in which certain aspects of a crime are recorded (such as victim dob, suspect address, witness ethnicity and so on), we do not have any fields in which we record the following :-

- What has been reported stolen in a burglary or its' value
- The type of building concerned (e.g. detached, semi-detached, terraced, flat/apartment)
- The means of entry used

If held, this information would only be stated in either the narrative of the crime order entry log, in accompanying paperwork such as statements / records of interview or in the narrative of the call log recorded by our Contact Centre.

Wiltshire Police record crimes in accordance with current Home Office crime recording guidelines. All residential burglaries are recorded under either of the following categories :-

- Residential Burglary of a Home
- Residential Burglary of Unconnected Building

For the time period you require Wiltshire Police have recorded 1,137 Burglary Crimes across these two categories.

Even allowing a very conservative 5 minutes per record to undertake a search of the occurrence logs and accompany documents involved for each one and making a note of anything that met your criteria, I estimate that this would take nearly 95 man-hours to complete.

Under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it.

Please also note that if one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is due to the fact that locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

It should also be noted that there is no obligation on an Authority to create information – *where none currently exists* – simply to answer an FOI request.

Although excess cost removes the forces' obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. What I am able to provide you are the answers documented below :-

Question 1

Month	Residential Burglary Of A Home	Residential Burglary Of Unconnected Building	Grand Total
January	61	33	94
February	55	41	96
March	47	50	97
April	52	47	99
May	52	44	96
June	48	35	83
July	52	40	92
August	64	47	111
September	42	45	87
October	36	43	79
November	50	46	96
December	44	63	107
TOTAL	603	534	1137

Question 2

Day of week	Residential Burglary Of A Home	Residential Burglary Of Unconnected Building	GRAND TOTAL
Sun	95	58	153
Mon	93	99	192
Tue	83	79	162
Wed	82	61	143
Thu	84	90	174
Fri	96	85	181
Sat	70	62	132
TOTAL	603	534	1137

Ordinarily under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request in respect of questions 3,4 and 5 to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide such 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.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 12: Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

- (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

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.



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN
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