

# WILTSHIRE POLICE



Via Email



## Police Headquarters

London Road  
DEVIZES  
Wiltshire  
SN10 2DN

Date: 28/07/2026

Our ref: FOI 2026/688

Reply contact name:

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/07/2026 concerning Christopher Halliwell.

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:

In 2012, Christopher Halliwell was convicted of murders committed in Wiltshire.

Did Wiltshire Police consider him a possible suspect in the disappearance of Claudia Lawrence in York in 2012 ?

Did Wiltshire Police issue a statement to the Media , saying that Halliwell 's car was seen on CCTV at a petrol station in Swindon at the time of Claudia Lawrence s disappearance, and that therefore he was not a suspect ?

### Response:

**Q1.** Wiltshire Police are not responsible for the investigation into the disappearance of Claudia Lawrence. Any questions about suspects in this case will need to be directed to North Yorkshire Police.

### Q2. Media release dated October 2012:

Wiltshire Police has been in ongoing contact with North Yorkshire Police concerning the claims made by Mr FULCHER and at this time it is agreed by both police forces that there is nothing to indicate a link between the disappearance of Claudia Lawrence and the offending of Christopher Halliwell. More widely, we continue to keep an open mind in relation to any further offences that Christopher Halliwell may have committed and will follow the evidence wherever that may take us. We would welcome any new information

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

from the public or if indeed Halliwell himself would be prepared to speak to us about any other criminality then of course we would arrange to do so. It is important to stress that we would not encourage unhelpful speculation as this may cause distress to families involved who are desperate to have news of their loved ones. We always have, and will continue to, work with all forces in relation to the investigation into Halliwell. At the time of the arrest of Halliwell, all forces were notified of the circumstances of both murders and importantly, the facts that were known at that time. This is in line with good investigative practice and is recognised by Senior Investigating Officers across the country as appropriate action to take. Furthermore, engagement with the National Crime Agency throughout ensured that the investigation which secured Halliwell's conviction was shared with other organisations accessing the NCA services for homicide enquiries and this close liaison remains ongoing. We intend to continue this transparent approach with other forces and sharing of best practice. It would be inappropriate to comment further.

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

**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.

### **4. Conclusion of the Appeal**

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

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/>**