

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXXXXX
By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 22nd September 2026

Our Ref FOI 2026-799

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29th August 2026, concerning online child sexual exploitation offences and paedophile hunter groups.

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, research was conducted by the Business Intelligence department at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote and our response:

1. Please provide the number of crime reports for sexual grooming offences recorded with an online marker attached for the year 2025/26.

199

2. Please provide the number of individuals who were (i) charged and (ii) summonsed in connection with sexual grooming offences recorded with an online marker during the year 2025/26.

There were 21 individuals charged or summonsed for 26 occurrences; therefore, some individuals have received more than one charge and/or summons. The below is provided based on the total number of occurrences.

- **24 x charged / alternate offence charged**
- **2 x summonsed / postal requisition**

3. Of those cases where charges were brought (Q2), please provide the number which involved a paedophile hunter group or Online Child Sexual Abuse Activist Group (OCAG).

9

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

4. Please provide the names of all paedophile hunter groups and Online Child Sexual Abuse Activist Groups related to Q3.

There was only one instance where a group was named ('The Underworld'). In the remaining instances, it was mentioned that a group was involved but the group was not named.

Clarification received 04.09.2026

Please replace "sexual grooming" with "child sexual exploitation".

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,

FDU Decision Maker