

**Force Disclosure Unit**

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

www.wiltshire.police.uk

disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

XXXXXX – by E Mail

Date: 10th September 2026

Your ref: FOI

Our ref: FOI 2026 / 832

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 9th September 2026 concerning the old Debenhams Store in Swindon.

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 Force Ops and Learning & Development Teams - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide information held by Wiltshire Police concerning the use of the former Debenhams department store in Swindon as a training or exercise location.

The building I am referring to is the former Debenhams department store in Swindon town centre, located on The Parade/Fleming Way.

Please provide the following information:

1. Whether Wiltshire Police has ever used, or arranged for police personnel to use, the former Debenhams building for any training exercise, operational exercise, assessment, familiarisation or other police-related training activity.
2. If so, please provide the dates or years during which the building was used.
3. Please identify the type of training or exercise undertaken, for example firearms, public order, search, response, specialist operations, building entry, emergency response or other training. A general description is sufficient where more specific information cannot be disclosed.



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4. Please identify which Wiltshire Police department, unit or team was involved, where this information can be disclosed.

5. Please state whether any training or exercises at the building were conducted jointly with another emergency service, military unit, government organisation or other external organisation.

6. Please provide copies of any publicly disclosable documents, correspondence, agreements, briefing documents, exercise summaries, risk assessments or other recorded information relating to Wiltshire Police's use of the former Debenhams building for training or exercises.

For the avoidance of doubt, I am not requesting operationally sensitive information, tactical methods, security arrangements, personal data or information that would compromise current or future policing operations. Where individual pieces of information are exempt from disclosure, I would be grateful if the remainder of the information could still be provided with the exempt material redacted.

I am particularly interested in any use of the building from its closure as a department store to the present day.

Our response:

Wiltshire Police have not used this venue for any training, exercise, assessment or other Police related activity.

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 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

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