WILTSHIRE POLICE

Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

XXX

Sent via email: XXX

Date: 12/11/26 **Our ref:** FOI 2026/1019

Dear XXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/10/26 concerning Cannabis figures.

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:

Please provide the following counts for 1 March 2020 to the date of this request, 26 October 2026, covering everyone regardless of nationality or citizenship and all locations, not just vehicles.

Please break the figures down by financial year: 1-31 March 2020 separately; 2020/21 to 2025/26 separately; and 1 April 2026 to 26 October 2026 (or the latest available date, which please identify).

1. Arrests, separately for:
a) possession of cannabis;
b) possession of cannabis with intent to supply;
c) cultivation of cannabis and production of cannabis. Please show cultivation and production separately if recorded separately, or identify a combined category.

These are requests for arrest figures, rather than recorded crimes, charges or convictions. Please identify whether the figures count arrest events or unique people, and explain any overlap where an arrest can appear in more than one category. Please identify the offence codes or recorded categories used.

2. Search warrants relating to suspected possession of cannabis with intent to supply, and to suspected cannabis cultivation/production:
a) number granted/issued;
b) number executed, separately from the number granted/issued.
Please show the two offence groups separately where held. Include relevant recorded warrant powers, not only one statutory power. Count warrants rather than applications or addresses searched, and identify any overlap for warrants covering both offence groups. If only executed-warrant figures are held, please provide those and say that granted/issued figures are not held. If cannabis cannot be separated from other drugs in the recorded warrant data, please explain this rather than reporting all-drug figures as cannabis figures.

Please provide the figures in a spreadsheet or CSV by email, if possible. Recorded aggregates or an ordinary database extract are sufficient; I do not seek personal details, addresses, copies of warrants, or details of individual investigations. Please distinguish zero from information not held or not separately recorded, and explain material recording changes affecting comparisons.

If any part would exceed the cost limit, please provide advice and assistance on a manageable scope, including which years or questions can be answered from existing searchable records. Please identify any information withheld and the applicable exemption. If the information is already published, please provide the specific link and relevant table.

Please include the following:

1. Arrests AND cautions: provide separate counts of arrests and formal cautions for each of the original cannabis categories: possession; possession with intent to supply; and cultivation/production. If your force records cannabis warnings or equivalent warning disposals separately from formal cautions, please provide those separately where held, identifying the disposal type. Do not combine arrests and cautions into one total, as one person or incident may appear in both.

2. Warrants regardless of outcome: the warrant figures must include ALL relevant warrants granted/issued for suspected cannabis possession with intent to supply or cannabis cultivation/production, whether or not they were executed, whether or not cannabis or other evidence was found, and whether or not anyone was arrested, cautioned, charged or convicted. Please do not restrict the counts to successful searches, seizures or proven offences.

Please continue to show granted/issued and executed warrant counts separately. Where already recorded and readily retrievable, please also give the number of executed warrants where no cannabis was found/seized, identifying the recorded measure used. If that outcome breakdown is not held, please still provide the overall warrant counts.

The original period remains 1 March 2020 to 26 October 2026, with the same financial-year and partial-year breakdowns. This covers everyone regardless of nationality or citizenship. All other definitions and the requested spreadsheet/CSV format remain as set out in the original request.

This is an amendment to the same investigation, rather than a duplicate request for the original figures. Please confirm how it will be linked to the existing request and advise if it affects the response date. If any part exceeds the cost limit, please provide advice and assistance on what can be supplied from existing searchable records.

Response:

The information that you request is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval.

The force is unable to filter the warrants for specific types of offences. Ascertaining this information would only be possible by physically reading every individual warrant record for each year for the 6-year period you are requesting. This would entail interrogating thousands of records which would take the force over 18-hours of work to retrieve.

Under the circumstances I am 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 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 because locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

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 fee's regulations for the remainder of your request. What I can provide you with are the answers documented below:

Question 1

Please Note:

The force has completed the data up until the end of Oct-26.

- The force has completed the data for Q1 using the count of occurrence IDs and separated arrests/cautions and have added the offence descriptions used in the spreadsheet. If any Cannabis related incidents weren't recorded in this manner, it won't be present in the data.

Arrests			
	Possession	Possession with Intent to Supply	Production of cannabis
Mar-2020	27	1	2

Cautions			
	Possession	Possession with Intent to Supply	Production of cannabis
Mar-2020	4	0	0

Apr-2020	30	4	5
########	44	2	3
Jun-2020	32	6	2
Jul-2020	41	0	3
Aug-2020	30	6	2
Sep-2020	26	2	4
Oct-2020	44	2	2
Nov-2020	29	4	1
Dec-2020	29	3	1
Jan-2021	24	3	4
Feb-2021	33	2	2
Mar-2021	19	4	3
Apr-2021	27	5	4
########	23	5	3
Jun-2021	26	3	2
Jul-2021	24	6	3
Aug-2021	21	2	0
Sep-2021	16	1	1
Oct-2021	19	1	1

Apr-2020	10	0	0
May-2020	9	0	1
Jun-2020	14	0	1
Jul-2020	13	1	4
Aug-2020	4	0	3
Sep-2020	9	0	5
Oct-2020	15	0	1
Nov-2020	8	2	0
Dec-2020	15	0	0
Jan-2021	9	0	1
Feb-2021	11	0	1
Mar-2021	9	0	1
Apr-2021	9	1	1
May-2021	9	0	2
Jun-2021	8	0	1
Jul-2021	8	0	1
Aug-2021	8	0	0
Sep-2021	10	0	1
Oct-2021	5	1	3

Nov-2021	21	1	0
Dec-2021	10	0	2
Jan-2022	19	4	2
Feb-2022	20	2	2
Mar-2022	30	3	2
Apr-2022	32	2	1
########	32	3	1
Jun-2022	13	4	1
Jul-2022	29	3	1
Aug-2022	20	3	1
Sep-2022	24	1	2
Oct-2022	23	0	1
Nov-2022	21	2	1
Dec-2022	28	4	3
Jan-2023	24	1	3
Feb-2023	19	3	1
Mar-2023	16	4	1
Apr-2023	24	2	4
########	19	0	1

Nov-2021	7	0	0
Dec-2021	6	0	0
Jan-2022	5	0	0
Feb-2022	7	0	1
Mar-2022	3	0	0
Apr-2022	7	0	0
May-2022	7	0	0
Jun-2022	2	0	0
Jul-2022	7	0	0
Aug-2022	2	0	0
Sep-2022	3	1	0
Oct-2022	6	0	0
Nov-2022	2	0	0
Dec-2022	2	0	0
Jan-2023	6	0	0
Feb-2023	2	0	0
Mar-2023	1	0	0
Apr-2023	3	0	0
May-2023	2	0	0

Jun-2023	24	1	2
Jul-2023	16	2	4
Aug-2023	28	6	0
Sep-2023	23	1	3
Oct-2023	20	4	0
Nov-2023	20	3	2
Dec-2023	23	1	0
Jan-2024	17	2	0
Feb-2024	17	4	0
Mar-2024	26	2	1
Apr-2024	20	2	3
########	32	5	1
Jun-2024	23	3	0
Jul-2024	14	2	0
Aug-2024	16	1	2
Sep-2024	22	5	1
Oct-2024	17	3	3
Nov-2024	17	6	1
Dec-2024	27	2	1

Jun-2023	0	0	0
Jul-2023	3	0	0
Aug-2023	5	0	1
Sep-2023	3	0	0
Oct-2023	1	0	0
Nov-2023	5	0	0
Dec-2023	2	0	0
Jan-2024	1	0	0
Feb-2024	0	0	0
Mar-2024	0	0	0
Apr-2024	0	0	0
May-2024	2	0	1
Jun-2024	0	0	0
Jul-2024	1	0	0
Aug-2024	1	0	0
Sep-2024	1	1	0
Oct-2024	0	0	1
Nov-2024	0	0	0
Dec-2024	3	0	0

Jan-2025	28	3	0
Feb-2025	23	0	0
Mar-2025	33	1	0
Apr-2025	27	3	0
########	26	3	1
Jun-2025	20	3	1
Jul-2025	34	2	2
Aug-2025	29	3	2
Sep-2025	25	6	3
Oct-2025	26	2	2
Nov-2025	26	4	1
Dec-2025	31	3	0
Jan-2026	21	4	0
Feb-2026	25	1	0
Mar-2026	21	3	1
Apr-2026	25	3	0
########	34	1	0
Jun-2026	20	2	0
Jul-2026	7	1	0

Jan-2025	1	0	0
Feb-2025	2	0	0
Mar-2025	1	0	1
Apr-2025	0	0	0
May-2025	2	0	0
Jun-2025	1	0	0
Jul-2025	2	0	0
Aug-2025	0	0	0
Sep-2025	1	0	0
Oct-2025	2	0	0
Nov-2025	0	0	0
Dec-2025	1	0	0
Jan-2026	0	1	0
Feb-2026	1	0	0
Mar-2026	0	0	0
Apr-2026	1	0	0
May-2026	1	0	0
Jun-2026	0	0	0
Jul-2026	0	0	0

Aug-2026	23	1	2
Sep-2026	12	3	1
Oct-2026	13	1	0

Aug-2026	2	0	0
Sep-2026	0	0	0
Oct-2026	0	0	0

Offence Descriptions used	
Possession	Possess class B controlled drug - cannabis
	Having possession of a controlled drug - Cannabis
Possession with Intent to Supply	Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Cannabis
	Supply cannabis a class B controlled drug
	Possess cannabis with intent to supply
Production of Cannabis	Production or being concerned in production of a controlled drug - Cannabis
	Produce cannabis a class B controlled drug

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed on 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.

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

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/