WILTSHIRE POLICE

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 email

Date: 6th November 2026 Your ref: FOI Our ref: FOI 2026 / 962

Reply contact name is: Nick Penny

Dear XXXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10th October 2026 concerning PIP2 Accreditation.

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:

Please could you provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

PART 1: PIP2 accreditation

Using the most recent available workforce or training records, please provide the number of officers currently occupying Detective Sergeant, Detective Inspector and Detective Chief Inspector posts, broken down by rank, showing:

a. Total number of officers in post.
b. Number recorded as holding PIP2 investigator accreditation.
c. Number recorded as having completed the relevant PIP2 investigative supervisor or manager accreditation, including workplace portfolio sign-off.
d. Number recorded as not yet having completed the relevant supervisory or manager accreditation for their current post.
e. Number whose relevant accreditation status is unknown or not recorded.

PART 2: Accreditation requirements

Please provide a copy of any current policy or guidance setting out the PIP2 accreditation requirements for officers appointed to Detective Sergeant, Detective Inspector and Detective Chief Inspector posts, including any provisions permitting appointment before completion of the relevant accreditation.

NOTE: Availability of information

I am seeking aggregated figures from existing workforce or training records and copies of existing guidance only. I do not require individual officer information, manual verification of portfolios or the creation of new records.

If the information is not held in the precise format requested, please provide any relevant figures or records already available, including partial data where appropriate, rather than treating the request as requiring a new analysis.

Our response:

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

We do not have a centralised recording database or recording system that holds the information you are requesting.

Some training information is held by our HR / Establishment Team, some by our Learning & Development Team and yet more by our Transformation Team.

This is primarily attributable to each of those different areas holding separate responsibilities for indviduals – eg recruitment, training, onboarding of transferees, reorganisation and re-postings and so on.

Going forwards it is the Force intention to centralise the recording of a number of areas of business data - one of which is around skills and training records - but there is currently no estimated timescale when this will have been implemented.

The only way of locating the information you require would be to obtain all of the personal records held for each officer within the Force from each of these separate business areas, amalgamating that data and then undertaking a reconciliation of the data held for each individual to obtain one definitive set of training records for each. This process would be further complicated as records are still retained for individuals that have left the Force via retirement, discipinary reasons, ill health or transfer to other Forces and these would also need to be checked and ecluded from any results.

Wiltshire Police currently have c1200 officers in post at any one time and - allowing a very conservative 10 minutes per record to undertake this task – I estimate that this would entail approximately 200 man-hours of work simply for current active officers in the organisation.

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.

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 :-

Part 2

Wiltshire Police do not have any formal policy or guidance setting out the PIP2 accreditation requirements for officers appointed to Detective Sergeant, Detective Inspector and Detective Chief Inspector posts.

The National Investigators Exam – Failures and Deferrals Policy which I am supplying you with a copy of applies to police officers taking the National Investigators Exam, which is a requirement of the Initial Crime Investigators Development Programme (PIP 2 Pathway).
This policy is aimed at both police officers and police staff members which may include sergeants/inspectors etc. The National Investigators Exam – Failures and Deferrals Policy covers the process for dealing with failure to pass the exam and withdrawal/absence. It should be understood that the NIE is just one element of the PIP 2 Pathway.

Ordinarily under our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request 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 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