WILTSHIRE POLICE

Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

XXX

Sent via email: **XXX**

Date: 04/11/26 **Our ref:** FOI 2026/996

Dear XXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/10/26 concerning Hare Coursing.

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:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your police force.

Please may you provide me with: The total number of arrests on suspicion of hare coursing made by your force, broken down by year (from 2016 to 2025 inclusive) if time allows.

Please provide the information in the form of an Excel spreadsheet with the years along the left hand side and the hare coursing arrests figure in the next column to the right.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Response:

Arrest Year / Arrest Offence	Attend a hare coursing event - Hunting Act 2004	Being equipped for searching for or pursuing hares with dogs etc (recordable)	Control / handle dog in the course of / for the purposes of a hare coursing event - Hunting Act 2004	Participate in a hare coursing event	Trespass with intent to search for or to pursue hares with dogs (recordable)	Total
2016	-	-	5	-	-	**5**
2017	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
2018	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
2019	4	-	-	-	-	**4**
2020	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
2021	-	-	-	2	-	**2**
2020	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
2023	-	-	-	-	2	**2**
2025	-	6	-	3	5	**14**
Total	**4**	**6**	**5**	**5**	**7**	**27**

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/