

**Force Disclosure Unit**

Wiltshire Police HQ  
London Road  
Devizes  
Wiltshire SN10 2DN  
Telephone: 101  
Extn 62005  
e-mail  
[disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

Sally Challoner – by email

Date 07 February 2019

Your ref FOI

Our ref: FOI 2019 – 087

Reply contact name is Millie Rumley

Dear Sally,

I write in connection with your request for information, dated 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 concerning dogs shot by farmers and landowners.

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 of Wiltshire Police. Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

**You wrote:**

Please tell me how many dogs were shot by farmers and landowners in 2018 (or 2017 if you don't yet have the figures for 2018). This is part of a story I'm doing for BBC Points West about livestock worrying.

**Response:**

The information you have requested is not easily retrievable. There is no specific crime code relating to dogs being shot by farmers or landowners, or for livestock worrying. The only way to retrieve this information within our obligations under the fees regulations is by a keyword search.

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. Therefore the whole of the request should fall under the exemption of section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information appertaining to your first question using a 'wildcard' search as detailed below. Please note that a 'wildcard' search is not considered to be an accurate search method and is reliant on the text in an incident summary being a true representation of the incident. I trust the information provided below is helpful, but it does not affect the extent of our obligations under the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

**Using a keyword search for 'dog' and 'shot' we located one incident relevant to your request in 2017.**

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,

Millie Rumley  
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  
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 Manager  
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,  
London Road, Devizes,  
Wiltshire,  
SN10 2DN

Email at [disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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 Manager within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original Fol 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 Manager 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](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)