Dear James,

Following a request from you I have conducted a review of the response the Force gave in respect of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (the Act).

You wrote:

Since 2007, how many police officers have worked and/or continue to work for Wiltshire Police whilst having criminal or civil convictions? Also could you supply a list of the offences along with the number of officers related to each offence?

Wiltshire police issued a refusal notice citing section 12 of the Act as the reason for refusing to provide the information.

As part of my review I have consulted with the Force Protective Security Manager who has responsibility for managing the vetting process on behalf of the Chief Constable. He has confirmed that currently the only option available to Wiltshire police to locate and retrieve the information you have requested is to conduct a check of the Police National Computer (PNC) for each officer serving with the Force.

As there are approximately 1,200 serving officers I agree that it would not be possible to conduct checks of the PNC for each individual in order to locate and retrieve the information you seek within 18 hours. Therefore the refusal notice correctly stated that section 12 of the Act was applicable.

Whilst I know this response will be disappointing, I am able to inform you that the Force is carrying out a Vetting Transformation Programme between October 2012 and April 2014. This Programme will review the security vetting of all officers and where conviction information is found, not only will the appropriate action be taken in respect of the officer, but a record will be kept at individual officer level.
Both the Protective Security Manager and I are making recommendations to the senior management of the Force to make the statistical results of the Programme available to the public via the Force publication scheme. I therefore hope that the information you seek will be proactively published once the Programme is completed.

If you are still dissatisfied with Wiltshire police’s response following this review you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

Andrew McConaghy
Force Disclosure Manager