



George Robinson – by email



## Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext. 62005

[disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

Date: 14 November 2018

Your ref: FOI

Our ref FOI IR 2018/242

Dear George,

I write in connection with your request for an internal review, dated 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

Please accept my apologies for our response being so overdue.

### **In your original request, dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018, you wrote:**

Please could you release all health and safety documentation around the alleged Novichok attacks. This is to include, but not limited to the risk assessments for Police Officers wearing regular uniform rather than haz mat suits whilst stood next to tented off and supposedly dangerous areas.

### **Request for Internal Review**

This internal review applies to our response sent to you on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018, whereby Wiltshire Police confirmed that although health and safety documentation is held in relation to your request, this information is exempt from the obligation to communicate it to you, the applicant by virtue of sections 31(a) and (b) and section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Furthermore, Wiltshire Police could neither confirm nor deny the existence of any other information relevant to your request, by virtue of sections 23(5) and 24(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In your request for internal review, you outline the reasons why you believe that the information exempt from disclosure should be released, namely that the release of such documentation would not prejudice an enquiry or jeopardise national security to explain why constables were not wearing protective clothing.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## Response to Internal Review

Having reviewed your request, the original response and your request for internal review, I uphold the original response sent to you. I am therefore not able to confirm any further information other than what has already been published via press releases.

I agree with the reasoning outlined in the original response and the need to protect the proper investigation of the Novichok attacks and our capabilities and tactics in relation to it by limiting the information publically available. The integrity of the investigation is intrinsically linked with our duty to protect the public and in this case this duty clearly outweighs any factor in favour of disclosing health and safety documentation connected with the attacks.

Yours sincerely,

Millie Rumley  
Force Disclosure Decision Maker



### **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](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 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](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)