

I write in connection with your request for dated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, concerning non crime hate incidents.

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, Learning & Development and Information Management & Assurance departments, Hate Crime Lead, Force Policy Officer at Wiltshire Police.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

**You wrote:**

1. I would like to learn if Wiltshire Police record NCHI's and how many have been logged by Wiltshire and over what period such records have been kept.
2. How many springboard charges such as obstruct police, have been brought against individuals arising from visits by officers for NCHI's. Are those notionally 'accused' of NCHI's told they are not obliged to answer any questions whatsoever resulting from NCHI complaints?
3. Again, how many officers have been trained in the application of NCHI's and what this has cost the Wiltshire taxpayers?
4. What policies are implemented by Wiltshire in regard to NCHI's given that they have no statutory force and are in fact College of Policing guidelines, following the 1999 Lawrence Inquiry to combat racism, and were not enshrined in legislation.

**Our response:**

**1. Please note:**

NCHIs came into effect 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

Incidents logged as Hate Crimes are audited and reclassified as NCHIs where appropriate, and vice-versa.

Year	Distinct Count of Occ No
2023	11
2024	30
2025	9
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>50</b>

*2. Springboard charges*

**Please note:** This question has been answered by checking all NCHIs for any associated occurrences which were crimes, if any suspect was charged for the offence.

## *Answering questions*

When an officer wishes to ask questions of a person they suspect to be involved in a criminal offence a police constable will always read out the caution that states "You do not have to say anything. But it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence.". In the case of a police constable speaking to a person that was subject of a NCHI it would simply be informing the person that an NCHI report had been made. Since there would be no suspicion of that person being a suspect in a criminal offence no questions would be asked of them

3. This is not information we hold specific data on, so would require creating data in order to provide a response. All student officers receive ED&I training, including inputs on NCHIs, but numbers and cost would be factored into the training costs overall and recruitment.
4. **Please note:** There is not a requirement for a Public Authority to create data to furnish a request for information, where this data is not already held.

Some of the information in relation to this question is exempt under the Freedom of Information Act by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means

Section 40(2) - Personal data

The Wiltshire Police Hate Crime Policy, which also covers NCHIs, is publicly available on the Wiltshire Police website - [Hate Crime Policy and Procedure](#).

Wiltshire Police also have a Non-Crime Hate Incidents Guide. Whilst it has been confirmed this Guide can be put into the public domain, redactions are required to remove personal data and hyperlinks have been removed where Wiltshire Police do not own the documents and/or where the link is to the internal intranet portal. **Please find the redacted version of this guide attached at the end of the response letter.**

Information which constitutes personal data is exempt under Section 40(2) of the FOIA if it relates to a third party, and the disclosure to the public would contravene the data protection principles set out in Section 34 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 5 of the GDPR.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and therefore there is no requirement to articulate the harm or conduct a Public Interest test.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide 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.

Exemptions applied:

Section 21 - Information Accessible to the Applicant by Other Means

Section 40(2) - Personal Information

In accordance with Section 17 of the Act, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for this particular request.