



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 29/02/2024

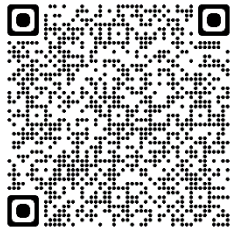
2024/112 - Online Child Abuse Gangs (OCAGs)

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

1. Do you have a published/unpublished policies on how you engage with Online Child Abuse Gangs (OCAGs)? If yes, please can you provide a link?

North Wales Police comply with the guidance provided by the College of Policing within Authorised Professional Practice (APP)

I have copied the QR code for a link to this information: Investigating child abuse and safeguarding children below:



2. Are mental capacity tests used to assess the capacity of the accused to understand the nature of an offence in the event of OCAG activity leading to arrest?

Mental capacity is outlined by the [College of Policing](#).

Each accused, will when entering custody, be assessed by a medically trained member of staff. This will determine whether they have any ongoing mental health concerns and whether they are fit to detain and fit to interview.

If deemed unfit a full mental health capacity assessment will be completed by a mental health doctor.

3. Do you have a policy for recording, processing, and validating evidence provided from OCAGs? If yes, please can you provide a link?

There is no policy other than the APP as outlined above. All material relevant to the case is recorded within the North Wales Police Record management system.

4. Do you provide policing staff with any training around engaging with and making use of evidence from OCAGs?

ABE training is delivered to all officers within initial training and again on PIP 2 Interview Training, advanced interview training and Advanced inter coordinator training. In addition, North Wales Police provide training to all social service colleagues working across North Wales, funded by the Safeguarding Board. There are four such courses run each training year with capacity for ten learners on each.

5. Do you provide any training on working with suspects with learning difficulties?

Training is provided at all levels with regards to the use of intermediaries for both victims and suspects in line with Achieving best evidence.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 20/02/2024