



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 06/02/2024

2024/118 - Lost DNA samples in 2022/23 - incorrectly sealed bags

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

The Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner's annual report 2022 to 2023 (published 24/1/24) states that police forces lost 2081 DNA samples in 2022/23 (para.53):

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fbiometrics-and-surveillance-camera-commissioner-report-2022-to-2023%2Fbiometrics-and-surveillance-camera-commissioners-annual-report-2022-to-2023-accessible&data=05%7C02%7CFreedomofInformationTeam%40northwales.police.uk%7C726258e32b3e4e5c05ec08dc1e9e871d%7C4e86b176a10e43bd8d27927f44d0e665%7C0%7C0%7C638418913456604267%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1IST%2F4TDCqK3tP%2Fdgx69qfxTga1R7n2JvZ8Fb1hf2s4%3D&reserved=0>

1. Please provide the number of DNA samples North Wales Police lost in 2022/23.

Paragraph 50 states:

'50. Failure to seal the bag correctly again features highly as an issue, rising from 953 occasions in the last reporting year to 1214 to this year...'

There were 27 samples from North Wales lost in 2022/23 due to errors.

2. Please provide the number of failures attributed to incorrectly sealed bags recorded by North Wales Police in 2022/23.

There were 4 samples from North Wales where the bags were incorrectly sealed during 2022/23.

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