



HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE

Response Date:08/03/2024

2024/201 - Corruption data for the financial year 2022/23

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

On page 145 of 'An inspection of vetting, misconduct, and misogyny in the police service' published by HMICFRS it states:

"The Counter-Corruption (Intelligence) APP lists 12 categories of corruption-related intelligence. It is good practice for forces to use these categories when recording intelligence. All forces should do this consistently to help them understand the threats they face."

The categories are listed on page 146:

- "• infiltration;**
- disclosure of information;**
- perverting the course of justice;**
- sexual misconduct;**
- controlled drug use and supply;**
- theft and fraud;**
- misusing force systems;**
- abuse of authority;**
- inappropriate association;**
- vulnerability;**
- commit, incite, aid, and abet, or assist an offender in the commission of, a crime; and •**
- other [corruption-related intelligence not categorised elsewhere]."**

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhmicfrs.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk%2Fpublications%2Fan-inspection-of-vetting-misconduct-and-misogyny-in-the-police-service%2F&data=05%7C02%7CFreedomofInformationTeam%40northwales.police.uk%7Ce790159fa09947ef641f08dc2df3aaba%7C4e86b176a10e43bd8d27927f44d0e665%7C0%7C0%7C638435771775831520%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=erz4h8qjgh6s2e2c%2BmQB3QudoeGX5UMICUX8XIh%2FjMs%3D&reserved=0>

- 1. For the year 2022/23, please provide the figures recorded in each of the 12 categories.**
- 2. If you do not use these categories, please provide details of the categories you use and related figures for 2022/23.**

There have been 242 intelligence logs during this timeframe.

Due to the nature and sensitivity of these types of intelligence logs harm has been identified in providing you with information broken down into categories.

Therefore, Section 31 (1) (a)(b) Enforcement is to be considered as part of the Public Interest Test. A Public Interest Test has been carried out to weigh up the reasons for and against disclosure of

the information requested, to ensure the release is in the interest of the public as a whole and not just the applicant.

HARM – s31(1)(a)(b)

Disclosures made under the Act are published by North Wales Police, placing them into the public domain. Should the force release a breakdown of the corruption related intelligence recorded in financial year 2022/23, this would make available to those that are either corrupt, would seek to corrupt police employees or engage in criminal or inappropriate/unethical conduct, with details of North Wales Police intelligence picture in this area. This information would assist persons that seek to commit criminal offences or engage in inappropriate/unethical conduct to continue to do so. This would hinder the ability of the police to prevent and/or detect crime or apprehend or prosecute offenders, contrary to the public interest.

It should also be noted that disclosures under the Act can appear innocuous but when pieced together with other disclosures under the Act, published material and/or information gleaned about police counter-corruption work, can be used in a 'mosaic' way to create a picture for those wishing to commit offences.

Public Interest Test

Considerations Favouring Disclosure - North Wales Police is a public authority and is ultimately accountable to the general public. When any request for information is made to the police, it is important that the force are transparent, where possible, in responding to that request for information. Disclosing a breakdown of corruption related intelligence recorded in financial year 2022/23, would reinforce our commitment to greater openness and transparency with the general public.

North Wales Police is granted extraordinary powers in preventing and detecting crime. There is a very clear public interest in providing as much information about the way in which the force ensures that its employees maintain the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. Release of the requested information would accordingly facilitate informed public debate.

Considerations Favouring Non-Disclosure - Police intelligence is an essential tool that enables the police to prevent and detect crime and apprehend those responsible for committing offences. In this context of corruption related intelligence, this information is pivotal in identifying those who are corrupt, seek to corrupt police employees, or otherwise engage in criminal or inappropriate/unethical conduct.

Balance test

When considering whether the release of information is in the public interest, I have to consider whether the public interest is in favour of releasing information into the public domain or whether there is sufficient reason to support withholding the requested information. Having considered your request, I accept that there is a public interest in openness and transparency when any request is made for police information. I also accept that there is a public interest in the release of information about the intelligence North Wales Police recorded in the area of corruption, given the extraordinary powers granted powers to police in society.

The public interest favouring release must be balanced against any associated risk and/or prejudice that would be caused by disclosure. Having carefully considered this, I have found that corruption related intelligence is an important tool available to police in identifying those that are corrupt, seek to corrupt police employees or otherwise engage in criminal or inappropriate/unethical conduct. The public provision of the detail of the intelligence, even in category form, would be likely to assist persons that seek to commit criminal offences or engage in inappropriate/unethical conduct to continue to do so. This would hinder the ability of the force to prevent and/or detect crime or apprehend offenders, contrary to the public interest.

Having carefully considered your request, I have found that the public interest remains in ensuring that North Wales Police is able to withhold information that would hinder its ability to root out the corrupt,

those that seek to corrupt police employees or otherwise engage in inappropriate/unethical conduct. The information requested is therefore refused for this reason.

North Wales Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information relevant to this request, as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of Section 23(5) Information Supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies.

Section 23 is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in this case. Confirming or denying the existence of whether any other information is held would contravene the constrictions laid out within Section 23 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in that this stipulates a generic bar on disclosure of any information applied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies.

Consequently, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (1) of the legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 07/03/2024