



Response Date:20/03/2024

### **2024/227 - Fraud**

In response to your recent request for information excess costs is relevant which removes the forces obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

#### **Covering 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, I would like to obtain:**

- **How many members of staff are dedicated to investigating fraud? Please breakdown by type of staff (for example police officers, police staff, police specials)**

North Wales Police (NWP) have a Fraud Triage and Financial Abuse Safeguarding Team.

This consists of:-

1 x Detective Sgt

2 x Detective Constables – Fraud Triage

2 x Detective Constables - Financial Abuse Safeguarding Officers (FASO).

We do not have a dedicated team to investigate. Within NWP all reports are recorded of fraud, each one is triaged. It is decided that the fraud needs to be investigated further it is allocated to either response of CID colleagues to investigate, depending on the triage score (of complexity).

- **Where relevant, of these how many have received dedicated fraud training?**

All the Fraud Triage and Financial Abuse Safeguarding Team are Specialist Fraud Investigators (SFI). Within the force there are also a number of detectives that are SFI trained.

- **The total number of referrals disseminated to your police force by Action Fraud or the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau; and of which how many:**

57

- **Were allocated for investigation.**

57

- **Were filed without further investigation.**

30

- **Resulted in a charge.**

6

- **For each of the categories above (total number of referrals, were allocated for investigation, filed without further investigation, and resulted in a charge) please specify the number of such referrals where one of the major mobile operators (O2, EE, Three or Vodafone) was referenced.**
- **How many fraud cases did you take to the CPS for prosecution?**

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. To obtain the information in the format you have requested would involve manually reviewing each record on our force system. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (FOI) Fees and Appropriate Limit regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the FOI Act 2000 the information you have requested is exempt under Section 12 (1), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) 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 18/03/2024