



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 23/10/2025

2025/1070 - The Malicious Communications Act 1988 and the Communications Act 2003.

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I respectfully request access to the following recorded information held by yourselves (North Wales Police) regarding offences under the Malicious Communications Act 1988 and the Communications Act 2003.

I request the statistics for the full 2024 calendar year (1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024), broken down as follows:

Section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988 Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003

Clarifications: Arrests: This refers to the number of individuals taken into police custody for a recorded offence under the specified sections.

Charges/Summons: This refers to the number of those arrests that resulted in a decision to charge the suspect and/or issue a court summons. I am not requesting data on the final conviction rate.

Data Limitations: If your recording systems do not separate the two pieces of legislation, please provide the total combined figure and clearly state the Home Office classification codes used for the data extraction.

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. Our custody system is separate to our occurrences, therefore arrests and charges do not link together.

The table below shows the number of arrests in 2024 for 008.72 (Mal Comms Act) and 196/07 Communications Act. The charge data provided is retrieved from the occurrence therefore may not relate to those specific arrests. You can have multiple disposals where you have multiple offences in a custody record.

To establish the outcome of each arrest would require a manual search and cross referencing between the two systems. 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.

Although excess cost removed the forces obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or

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Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW
www.heddlugogleddcymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters,
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW
www.northwales.police.uk

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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.

HO Code	Arrests	Charge Occurrences
008/72	11	29
196/07	140	13

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 22/10/2025