



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 07/05/2025

2025/408 - Drink and/or drugs in a fatal road traffic collision

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

1. How many cases were investigated by North Wales Roads Policing where there was evidence of the driver being under the influence of drink and/or drugs in a fatal road traffic collision which couldn't be charged with more than Section 5 Road Traffic Act 1988 because of the lack of evidence of careless driving.

Section 3A Road Traffic Act 1988

2. How many cases were investigated by North Wales Roads Policing where the driver was driving without a licence and/or insurance in a fatal road traffic collision which couldn't be charged for with more than the summary offences of no licence/insurance because of the lack of evidence of careless driving.

Section 3ZB Road Traffic Act 1988

The date range for 1. and 2. is requested for calendar years from:

2017 to the end of 2024

Method

The injury road traffic collision (RTC) data is sourced from the Home Office Stats19 returns for the period of 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2024. Please note that 2024 data is considered provisional, therefore subject to change. The data was further broken down to causation factors 501 – Impaired by alcohol and 502 – Impaired by drugs (illicit or medicinal). This only included drivers linked as a vehicle which also included pedal cyclists as per the Stats 19. It does not include collisions involving pedestrians who were impaired either through alcohol or drugs at the time of the collision but would include if the driver who collided with the pedestrian was impaired.

Findings

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. There was a total of 192 fatal collisions during the requested period, which would require manual review to provide all the information requested. 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.

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**Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
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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 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.

There were 24 fatal collisions where impairment through drink or drugs for the driver was a causation factor.

Of the 24 collisions reviewed, 16 resulted in the death of the driver which were single vehicle collision, hence no prosecution. In three collisions the drivers were not charged with careless driving with one further fatal collision currently still being investigated. The remaining 4 were charged with careless driving.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 06/05/2025