



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 24/06/2025

2025/466 - Passport Facial Matching

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.

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I am writing to request the following information relating to Facial Matching Checks conducted by His Majesty's Passport Office on behalf of your force:

- **A copy of any policy held by your force governing the use of these checks, or any Data Protection Impact Assessment regarding these checks as used by your force**

North Wales Police do not hold any information in relation to this part of your request.

- **A copy of any breakdown for the crime types linked to the searches requested by your force (whatever level this is held at, whether specific offence, offence types, etc) for calendar year 2024**
- **The number of requests to HMPO for facial matching checks by your force in 2024, and 2025 as of the date of this request**

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 13/05/2025

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

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

**Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK**