



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:03/06/2025

2025/497 - Multimedia forensic processes

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

- 1. A copy of the SOPs, guidance documents, or policy documents covering the forensic processing, enhancement, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of audio, video, and image material for investigative or evidential purposes.**
- 2. Any internal multimedia forensic workflows, protocols, or standard practices related to handling such material.**
- 3. The names of software, tools, or systems used for these processes, including any associated training or operational guidance.**
- 4. The quality assurance, validation, or review procedures used to ensure the accuracy, authenticity, and admissibility of multimedia forensic evidence. If the full SOPs or documents cannot be shared, I kindly request the following information in place of the SOP as per the following seven points:**
- 5. A summary or description of the multimedia forensic processes followed**
- 6. SOP titles, version numbers, and the dates of their creation, last update, and validation/approval.**
- 7. The roles, departments, or individuals responsible for authoring, validating, or approving the SOPs.**
- 8. The legislation, policies, standards, or external guidance referenced during the development and/or review of the SOPs.**
- 9. Whether the SOPs have undergone any ethical review or approval, and details of any such review processes or bodies involved.**
- 10. Whether the SOPs have been externally validated, peer-reviewed, or accredited by any agency, professional body, or external organization.**
- 11. Whether any SOPs are currently under review, have recently been amended, or are scheduled for updates, and the relevant timelines if applicable. In addition to the previous, please provide responses to the following four points regarding the use of emerging technologies:**
- 12. Please detail whether your multimedia forensic unit currently uses or has trialled artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning (ML) tools for: o Authentication (e.g., detecting edits, deepfakes, or tampering) o Enhancement (e.g., audio/video/image quality improvement) o Analysis or interpretation (e.g., transcription, object recognition, pattern matching) Note: a simple response is acceptable here such as "Authentication: Use. Enhancement: Trialled. Analysis: Not used"**
- 13. If applicable, the names or vendors of the AI/ML tools used.**
- 14. Whether the use of these tools is governed by any SOPs, internal policies, or ethical guidelines.**
- 15. Whether the adoption and use of AI/ML tools have been subject to ethical review, oversight, or risk assessment, and any details of such reviews or assessments. I understand some content may be subject to exemptions, and I**

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would appreciate any available redacted, summary, or contextual information where full disclosure is not possible.

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 02/06/2025