



Response Date:12/08/2025

2025/812 - Boarding Kennel

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I'd like to know how much NWP spent at Brookhouse Boarding Kennel, Brookhouse Farm, Brookhouse, Denbigh.LL16 4RD on boarding for Service Dogs for each of the last 10 years upto 2025. (Dogs owned by NWP and classified as search/ detection or attack animals, PD etc)

That would be for the years 2014-2024 as I understand final calculations for the year 2025 won't yet be possible.

If that is confidential information, then my request would be how long has North Wales Police had a business relationship with the above business?

North Wales Police can neither confirm nor deny whether information relevant to this request is held, as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 31(3) - Law enforcement

Sections 31 is a prejudice based qualified exemptions and any prejudice (harm) that confirming or denying information is held would cause must be articulated as well as the public interest considerations.

Harm

FOI requests are disclosures to the world (not just to the applicant making the request), if North Wales Police were to use exemptions against the information requested (rather rely on the use Section 31 (3)) this could provide the public with the exact information we are trying to protect.

To disclose (confirm or deny) the location of where any dogs associated with the police are kennelled could cause harm to the Police service's ability to protect the public it serves and could prejudice its ability to perform core functions such as the prevention and detection of crime.

Providing details of the physical location of a specific kennel could provide individuals with criminal intent the intelligence required to gain access police dogs and or/seized animals. The disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the Police service's ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

Disclosing the location of our kennelling provision for any police/seized dogs would provide sufficient information for individuals with malicious intent to target the kennels. For example; owners could attempt to break into the kennels to secure the return of their dog, before any court proceedings could be taken, which would prejudice law enforcement. Similarly, individuals could

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

attend the kennels and threaten members of staff. Should this occur, this would endanger the safety of staff and other individuals using the premises. In addition, the safety of the public at large could be compromised if dogs were released back into the community because of any such action.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring Confirming or Denying for Section 31

The disclosure of this information would adhere to the general principle of openness and transparency, by providing better awareness which may reduce crime or lead to more information from the public.

Where public funds are being spent, there is a public interest in accountability and justifying the use of public money.

Factors against Confirming or Denying for Section 31

Confirming or denying that any information is held regarding a specific kennel location would undermine law enforcement resulting in more crime being committed.

This would have an impact on Police resources and place individuals and the general public at risk. Patterns could be drawn which would enable those intent on criminal activities to strategically plan offences based on this data. The force would then be required to adapt its methods in order to continue to prevent and detect crime.

Balance Test

The Police Service is tasked with enforcing the law and protecting the community we serve and there is a public interest argument in ensuring we are open and transparent.

To confirm or deny the location for any kennel used by the police service would harm the ability of North Wales Police to prevent and detect crime is a more influential reason. It is therefore my opinion that the balance lies in favour of non-disclosure of the information at this time

Therefore, in accordance with section 31(3) of the FOIA 2000, I can neither confirm nor deny that this information is held by North Wales Police. This refusal should not be taken to mean that the information you have requested exists or does not exist.

Consequently, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (1) 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 08/08/2025