



Response Date:03/09/2025

2025/870 – Incidents

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

1: How many times in the last 12 months have North Wales police sent officers a report of a sign or notice that was not illegal?

2: How many officers are normally sent to "incidents" of this type?

3: Given the activity is not, in itself, illegal what is the justification for the allocation of front line resources to investigate it? I.e. why is anybody sent to these incidents?

4: How long are assigned officers normally engaged when dealing with these kinds of issues?

5: What is the estimated cost for such an incident, or the total cost for all calls to such incidents over the last 12 months?

6: Have North Wales Police ever attend a call to a shoplifting incident and responded by returning the stolen goods but taken no action against the person who committed the offence? If so, has the same strategy been applied to any other kind of theft?

7: How many reports of shoplifting have North Wales Police received over the last 12 months (or whatever period the data is available for)

8: How many times have North Wales Police attended to reports of shoplifting?

If you feel unable to respond to some, or all of this request, please explain the reasons why and I will re-submit the request in a form that you will be able to respond to.

If you do not have the data required to respond to a question please confirm that this the case.

If a response to one of my questions is available on your website please send a link to the information as your response to my request.

Clarification

I am referring to signs that may "....cause harassment, alarm or distress" as defined in the Public Order Act 1986.

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

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. There is no event type to capture 'non-illegal signs'. Furthermore in relation to shoplifting there is no standard field that would capture those circumstances.

The cost of providing you with the information for one month alone 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 21/08/2025