



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:30/09/2025

2025/955 - Child sexual exploitation

In response to your recent request for information excess cost is relevant to part of your request which removes 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.

- 1. The number of group-based child sexual exploitation offences recorded by the force for each of the past three calendar years (Or if this data has not been recorded, the number of child sexual abuse offences, flagged as child sexual exploitation, for each of the past three calendar years)**

The force is unable to extract group based offending data - national systems do not currently support 'group-based' offending flags

- 2. The total number of alleged victims involved in these offences for each of the past three calendar years.**

We do not currently record 'group based' however the data for CSE offences can be extracted from flags on our system.

Calendar Year	Occ Count	Victim Count
2022	84	66
2023	111	77
2024	92	67
2025	78	63

- 3. The number of requests the force has made to Snapchat (Snap Inc) for account data/records, as part of investigations into group-based child sexual exploitation investigations (or CSA investigations flagged as CSE) for each of the past three calendar years.**

We are unable to extract submissions into group-based CSE investigations. There are a lot of options an applicant can choose in terms of the crime and sub category they submit an application under and there is nothing specific to group-based CSE

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We have searched across the system on a range of different crime types which may be applicable to offences of this nature.

This is a search across 'Sexual Offences' as the main crime category and then each of these as sub categories:

child abduction,
sexual assault on male child under 13,
sexual assault on a female child under 13,
rape of a female child under 16,
rape of a male child under 16,
rape of a female child under 13,
rape of a male child under 13,
sexual activity involving a child under 13,
sexual activity involving a child under 16,
sexual grooming

These are the results:

2023 – 106

2024 – 117

2025 YTD - 51

These are individual submissions to Snapchat and not applications, so one application may request data on several different snapchat accounts. This is count of all the individual accounts we have requested snapchat disclose data on.

To provide any further breakdown would require 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 29/09/2025