



**HEDDLU  
GOGLEDD CYMRU  
NORTH WALES  
POLICE**

Response Date:03/10/2025

**2025/994 - Drug driving**

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

**For each of the respective years 2025-26 to date, 2024-25, 2023-24, 2022-23, 2021-22 and 2020-21 can I please ask for the following:**

**1. The number of blood tests sent to a lab for testing, taken from suspects, suspected of driving under the influence of drugs?**

01/01/2020 – 31/12/2020 – 1200 Samples  
01/01/2021 – 31/12/2021 – 907 Samples  
01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022 – 856 Samples  
01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023 – 937 Samples  
01/01/2024 – 31/12/2024 – 1100 Samples  
01/01/2025 – 31/08/2025 – 878 Samples

**2. How many of these tests took under one month to be returned with a result?**

**3. How many of these tests took between one to three months to be returned with a result?**

**4. How many of these tests took between three to six months to be returned with a result?**

**5. How many of these tests took over six months to be returned with a result?**

**6. How many of these tests were 'lost' or were never returned with a result?**

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. This process would need to be carried out by various departments: To work out how long it took to get the results as after the officer receives the results they will need to work on the files before seeking charging advice. This would have to be carried out on near 6000 records. 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.

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,  
Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW  
[www.heddlugogleddcymru.police.uk](http://www.heddlugogleddcymru.police.uk)

Police Headquarters,  
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW  
[www.northwales.police.uk](http://www.northwales.police.uk)

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We can advise it typically it takes around 22 days to 55 days to get back toxicology results back from the lab from submission.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST  
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 30/09/2025