



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 25/09/2026

2026/790 - IT and Software Spend

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would be grateful if you could provide the following details regarding your police force's IT expenditure for the past three fiscal years (from 2023/24 to 2025/26):

1) Total IT Expenditure:

Please provide the overall IT expenditure for each of the last three fiscal years.

The revenue expenditure for each of the three fiscal years excluding staff costs are as follows:

FY23/24	£13,073,303.67
FY24/25	£12,346,597.30
FY25/26	£13,396,553.63

2) Software Expenditure:

Please provide the total spend on software for each of the last three fiscal years. This should include initial software licence fees, software maintenance fees, and subscription fees but should exclude associated services such as installation.

FY23/24	£5,639,737.86
FY24/25	£6,699,286.09
FY25/26	£7,395,434.51

Please note: Software expenditure is not captured and reported against a singular account code, nor does it distinguish or breakdown costs between licenses fees, maintenance fees, subscriptions fees, installation etc. There may be elements of installation includes within the above costs.

3) Cell-Site, Communications Data and Digital Forensics Software – Supplier and Spend Detail:

For each of the last three fiscal years, please provide the following for any software used for cell-site analysis, communications data analysis (e.g. call data records / CDRs), digital device extraction analysis, or associated intelligence / link analysis. This includes, for example, products supplied by Forensic Analytics Ltd, Chorus Intelligence Ltd, or equivalent providers:

- the name of the supplier and the product(s) held;**
- the total spend or annual contract value (including licence, maintenance and subscription fees, but excluding associated services such as installation, training or**

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consultancy);

- the number of software licences or named users held;

If supplier- or contract-level information is not held in this form, I would instead be grateful for the total software spend (as defined at point 2 above) on software of this type – i.e. software primarily used by cell-site / communications data units, digital forensics units, or intelligence / analysis teams, as opposed to software used across the wider police force – for each of the last three fiscal years.

Supplier	Financial Year	Expenditure (excl VAT)	Products Held
Chorus Intelligence Ltd	2023	£187,950.00	Chorus Analyse / Chorus Investigate and Chorus Intelligence Suite
	2024	£188,950.00	
	2025	£201,780.00	
Best Evidence Technologies	2023	£7,433.54	Amped 5
	2024	£7,413.23	
	2025	£9,036.85	
Cellebrite	2023	£53,656.07	Inseyets / Digital Collector / Inspector
	2024	£133,709.14	
	2025	£154,947.41	
Digital Detective	2023	£170.00	Hst Ex / Net Analysis
	2024	£5,919.82	
First Forensic Solutions Ltd	2023	£1,000.00	FC Discovery 2
	2024	£1,000.00	
	2025	£4,500.00	
Intaforensics	2023	£7,826.16	LIMA
	2024	£2,734.97	
	2025	£12,416.81	
Magnet Forensics	2023	£48,908.78	Griffeye / Axiom / Witness / Outrider / Automate
	2024	£136,507.61	
	2025	£69,238.75	
MD5 LTD	2023	£600.00	VFC
	2024	£650.00	
	2025	£650.00	
Micro Systemation Ltd / MSAB	2023	£6,823.17	XAMN / XRY Pro
	2024	£7,866.71	
	2025	£13,132.89	
X-Ways	2024	£7,140.00	X-Ways
	2025	£8,505.00	
The below are newer and have no expenditure against the full financial years 2023, 2024 or 2025, but do have spend in FY2026 to date as below:			

Gladiator Forensics	2026 YTD	£4,690.00	GAR Analytics / ESPA
Passware	2026 YTD	£3,465.00	Passware Kit Ultimate

- the number of software licences or named users held;

Harm has been identified in providing you with any additional information;

To provide numbers of licences or names users purchased together with the total costs a unit price could be calculated and this is commercially sensitive and could have an impact for the current supplier if this went out for retender, giving the requestor an advantage.

The exemption/s, as well as the factors considered when deciding where the public interest lies, are listed below:

Section 43 (2) Commercial Interests

This is a prejudice-based exemption which means that the public authority must demonstrate that it is satisfied that to release the information would damage someone's commercial interests. It is also a qualified exemption which means that the public authority must consider the balance of the public interest in releasing the information against the public interest in withholding it.

Harm Test

Contracts are awarded following a procurement process in which tenders are invited from interested parties. As one means of ensuring fairness in the process, parties do not know the details of any of the other parties' tenders. This includes the price at which services can be delivered. To release the details of the prices offered in a tender of any party would be likely to harm that party's commercial interests.

Releasing unit costs and/or information which would allow this to be calculated is likely to result in an unfair advantage to competitors in the tendering process. Competitors could potentially undercut this unit costs and gain favour in the cost element of a tendering process.

Public Interest Test

Factors Favouring Disclosure

There is a strong public interest in ensuring that public money is spent correctly and that North Wales Police, and therefore the tax payer, gets value for money when purchasing goods and services.

Release would also facilitate the accountability and transparency of North Wales Police for decisions taken by them in relation to contracts awarded so that they might be challenged.

Factors Favouring Non - Disclosure

Disclosure of pricing information would make it less likely that companies or individuals would provide the North Wales Police with commercially sensitive information in the future and consequently undermine the ability of the North Wales Police to fulfil one of its roles of running fair tender competitions.

Companies compete by offering something different from their rivals and any difference will often be reflected in price. This may also relate to the quality or specification of the product/service they offer. Information identifying the unique price offered by North Wales Police's current service provider is commercially sensitive and may also inadvertently reveal information about their profit margins.

North Wales Police's commercial interests would be prejudiced if it released details of customers' tenders as disclosure of these would be likely to damage North Wales Police's business reputation and possibly the confidence that future customers and suppliers would have in it.

Balancing Test

There are factors which in general terms favour release of this information, however, the factors favouring non-disclosure are more specifically relevant. Releasing unit costs and/or information which would allow this to be calculated would not be in the public interest as it would be likely to harm the process of future tenders. Prospective customers, who will include current service providers, expect to enter a tender on a level playing field and North Wales Police have a responsibility to ensure there is fair competition for public sector contracts. No release of information should be made under the Freedom of Information Act that will give one person a commercial advantage over another. The exemption under Section 43 (2) of the Act caters for this situation. My decision, therefore, is not to release this information at this time.

Therefore, 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 24/08/2026