



Response Date: 17/08/2026

2026/796 - Flying of flags

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I am requesting the following recorded information regarding force policies and community engagement:

1. Flag Flying Policy and Plans.

o Please provide a copy of the current North Wales Police policy or guidance governing the flying of flags (including the Rainbow, Progress, or LGBT+ flags) at police headquarters and station premises.

o Does the force hold any recorded plans or schedules to fly the LGBT+ flag for Pride Month in future years? No

NWP hold no policies in relation to this request.

2. Historical Records on Flag Flying.

o Please provide recorded information showing whether the LGBT+ flag was flown at any North Wales Police premises during Pride Month in 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026.

o If the flag was not flown in any of these years, please supply copies of any recorded decisions, minutes, or correspondence explaining the decision not to fly it.

You may have seen coverage of the High Court judgment regarding Northumbria Police's participation in a Pride event while in uniform. The Court found that this breached the professional duty of impartiality, a core principle of policing. This ruling has significant implications for all forces, including North Wales Police.

As a service, we remain fully committed to being visible, accessible and responsive to all communities. That commitment includes meaningful engagement, listening with intent, and acting with integrity. However, we must also be mindful of our duty to maintain public confidence through impartiality and professionalism.

Most Pride Parades in North Wales are likely to be assessed as being 'non policed events', which means the organisers are responsible for planning and delivering a safe event.

At these events there is an opportunity for us to conduct engagement, much like we would at any community event, but we cannot take part or show support in any way, shape, or form.

It is imperative that no isolated promises are made to facilitate or police any event organisers plan without an assessment from Operations Planning by appropriately trained individuals.

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

Where events are assessed as requiring a policing presence for a policing purpose - namely public order and public safety - a Gold, Silver and Bronze command structure will be put in place and a clear briefing given to all resources deployed to allow us to fulfil our core policing principles without contravention of our duty of impartiality.

In light of the ruling in R, (on the application of Smith)-v- Chief Constable of Northumbria [2025] EWHC 1805 Admin North Wales Police officers and staff will adhere to the following principles:

On Duty Officers and Staff: Attendance for a Policing Purpose

Officers and staff on duty may only attend Pride for a Policing Purpose and must not do anything at an event which indicates support for or active participation in the event in question.

To clarify further:

- Officers and staff will only attend such an event for a policing purpose;
- A policing purpose will include protecting life and limb, investigation of crime, maintenance of law and order, public safety, and preventing a breach of the peace;
- A policing purpose will also include community engagement focused on:
 - Encouraging the reporting of hate crime;
 - Crime prevention activity and advice;
 - Recruitment activity;
- Officers and staff are not permitted to actively participate in any Pride event;
- Officers and staff are not to do anything which would indicate support for the event such as display symbols on clothing or otherwise or signage;
- Any officer or staff attending on duty for a policing purpose is not permitted to change their intention and actively participate in any aspect of the event (for example, standing at a crime prevention stall before then becoming actively involved in a parade).

Off Duty Officers and Staff

It is recognised that officers and staff have a qualified right to a private life to the extent that it does not bring into question their impartiality.

A commonsense approach is required from you in respect of participation in Pride when off duty.

To clarify further:

- Off duty officers/staff can of course participate in any Pride parade/event with the proviso that they do not wear any item of uniform and are not identifiable as police officers/staff;
- Officers/staff must conduct themselves in a manner aligned with the professional standards expected of us all, both on and off duty;
- For those wishing to attend off duty, there will be no reimbursement of time off in lieu (TOIL).

This approach has been consulted on with the LGBT+ Network, Legal Services and People Services as we recognise this is an emotive area which will impact some of our officers and staff, particularly those in the LGBT+ community. Support is available to those impacted either via LGBT+ Network, OHU and the Welfare Team.

3. Police Participation in Pride Events.

Please provide copies of current policy documents or guidance detailing the rules for police officer and staff participation in Pride events (covering both on-duty operational attendance and off-duty participation).

NWP hold no policies in relation to this request. Please note response to question 2.

4. Access to Diversity Officers.

o Please supply any public guidance, standard operating procedures, or contact protocols recorded by the force detailing how members of the public can contact or request a meeting with the three designated Diversity Officers referenced in response 2026/749.

[Equality Diversity Inclusion Team | North Wales Police](#) and attached

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 14/08/2026



HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE



THREATS

INSULTS

GRAFFITI

SPITTING

HATE **CRIME**

HATE MAIL

PHYSICAL ATTACKS

NAME CALLING

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

HATE CRIME

All Hate Crimes are fully investigated and prosecuted firmly by North Wales Police.

Stopping Hate Crime and bringing people who commit crime to justice is a priority.

Hate crimes and hate incidents are painful and hurt those involved, they can be confusing, frightening, and cause distress.

- Age
- Sexual Orientation
- Disability
- Transgender
- Race
- Gender
- Religion

A **Hate Incident** can be any incident against any of the above where the victim or any other person perceives it to be motivated by prejudice or hate.

HATE CRIME OF ANY KIND IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN NORTH WALES
REPORT IT!

If a crime has taken place in the above circumstances, it will be a **Hate Crime**.

If you believe you have been a victim or witness an incident, report it on:

 **999** - in an emergency only or
101 / 0300 330 0101 non-urgent

 **www.northwales.police.uk/**

**FOR FURTHER
ADVICE, CONTACT:**

PC 2688 Rob Newton-Miller:
07971 822 194

PC 3167 Richard Fishlock:
07989 165 376

Victim Support:
0300 303 1982



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**



BYGYTHION

SARHAD

GRAFFITI

POERI

TROSEDD CASINEB

**POSTIO NEGESEUON
CASINEB**

YMOSODIADAU CORFFOROL

GALW ENWAU

DIFRODI EIDDO

TROSEDD CASINEB

**Mae Heddlu Gogledd Cymru'n
ymchwilio'n drylwyr i bob trosedd
casineb ac yn eu herlyn yn gadarn.**

Mae stopio Trosedd Casineb a dod â
throseddwy'r o flaen eu gwell yn
flaenoriaeth.

Mae troseddau a digwyddiadau casineb
yn brifo'r rhai sy'n eu dioddef a gallant
hefyd beri dryswch, dychryn a gofid.

- Oed
- Cyfeiriadedd Rhywiol
- Anabled
- Trawsrywedd
- Hil
- Rhywedd
- Crefydd

Digwyddiad Casineb yw unrhyw
ddigwyddiad lle mae'r dioddefwr neu
unigolyn arall yn credu mai'r ysgogiad
oedd rhagfarn neu gasineb seiliedig ar
un o'r uchod.

**NID YW TROSEDD CASINEB O UNRHYW FATH
YN DDERBYNIOL YNG NGOGLEDD CYMRU**

RIPORTIWCH NHW!

Bydd trosedd sy'n digwydd dan yr
amgylchiadau uchod yn **Drosedd
Casineb**.

Os ydych yn credu eich bod wedi
bod yn ddioddefwr neu'n dyst i
ddigwyddiad, riportiwrch o ar:

 **999** - mewn argyfwng yn unig
101 / 0300 330 0101
os nad yw'n argyfwng

 **www.northwales.police.uk/**

AM RAGOR O WYBODAETH CYSYLLTWCH Â:

PC 2688 Rob Newton-Miller:
07971 822 194

PC 3167 Richard Fishlock:
07989 165 376

Cymorth i Ddioddefwyr:
0300 303 1982