



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:19/02/2026

2026/156 - Dog bites

Although excess cost removed 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.

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to kindly request annual totals from 2010-2025 for the following information and statistics:

- 1. The number of dog bites from dogs owned by members of the public**
- 2. The number of Level 3 (Dunbar Scale) injuries within North Wales police force area**
- 3. The number of Level 4 (Dunbar Scale) injuries within North Wales police force area**
- 4. The number of Level 5 (Dunbar Scale) injuries within North Wales police force area**
- 5. The number of deaths occurring from dog bites within North Wales police force area**

Please find below data from the victim injury section in the occurrence stats class for 008/21 offences for the period:

Year	None	Slight	Serious	Not Recorded	Sum:
2010	4	38	4	11	57
2011	5	28	2	13	48
2012	16	28	1	10	55
2013	11	30	2	4	47
2014	21	70	3	12	106
2015	31	102	6	16	155
2016	25	183	11	26	245
2017	28	250	11	34	323
2018	35	280	22	9	346

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

**Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK**

2019	67	246	19	7	339
2020	42	242	21	20	325
2021	47	250	16	36	349
2022	45	314	40	62	461
2023	35	379	52	45	511
2024	52	383	35	61	531
2025	49	349	24	96	518

Calendar Year	HO Code	HO Description	Summary
2022	008/21	Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales (whether or not a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	victim having been bitten by a dog and has since gone into cardiac arrest and passed away.
2012	008/21	Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales (whether or not a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	... WALKING THEIR DOG ALONG THE BEACH, WHEN THE DOG HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY A BITBULL/STAFFIE TYPE DOG. BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE REQUIRE HOSPITAL TREATMENT *Husband later passed away*

6. The breeds of the offending dogs from the total in request 1 if reported

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. 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.

7. How many dogs were seized following a dog bite incident

We only hold information for 2025 which is 12 seized dogs as a result of someone getting bitten.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 13/02/2026