



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:08/07/2026

2026/687 - Offences of possession of cannabis

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;

I would like to request the following information from NWP.

For each of the last 5 financial years (2021/22 to 2025/26, or the most recent 5 years for which data is available), please provide:

- **The total number of recorded offences of possession of cannabis (under Section 5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971), broken down by year.**
- **Of those offences, the number that resulted in each of the following outcomes, broken down by year:**
 - a. No further action**
 - b. Cannabis warning**
 - c. Penalty Notice for Disorder (if still in use) or Community Resolution**
 - d. Charge/summons**

Outcome	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
01A. Alternate Offence Charged / Summoned / Postal Requisition	0	0	1	0	0
01. Charged / Summoned / Postal Requisition	298	248	192	236	259
02. Youth Caution / Conditional Caution	5	7	4	6	4
03. Adult Caution /Conditional Caution	37	10	7	14	10
05. Offender Has Died	1	0	0	1	0
07. Cannabis / Khat Warning	0	0	0	0	1
08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal	158	183	151	201	315
09. CPS Prosecution Not In Public Interest	1	0	2	1	0
10. Police Formal Action Not In Public Interest	88	79	44	15	4
11. Named Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility	0	1	0	0	0

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

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12. Named Suspect Too Ill To Prosecute	0	2	2	2	1
15. CPS Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties	2	7	5	5	2
15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties	61	55	60	85	73
16. Victim Declines / Withdraws Support - Named Suspect Identified	1	0	1	2	0
17. Suspect Identified but Prosecution Time Limit Expired	3	1	1	1	0
18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified	15	23	29	33	16
20. Other Body / Agency has Investigation Primacy	3	2	2	2	4
21. Police Named Suspect, Investigation Not in the Public Interest	49	37	26	7	8
22: Diversionary, educational or intervention activity, has been undertaken and there is no public interest to continue	197	199	154	170	137
23: Child deferred prosecution	0	0	0	1	0
24: Adult deferred prosecution	0	0	0	0	1
Outcome Not Yet Assigned	0	7	4	17	53
Total	919	861	685	799	888

- If recorded, the estimated average officer time (in hours) or cost associated with processing a single cannabis possession offence from detection to disposal.

North Wales Police do not hold this information.

- The number of drug detection dog deployments in each of the last 5 years, and, if recorded separately, the proportion or number of these deployments specifically related to suspected cannabis.

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.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 07/07/2026