



Response Date: 14/08/2026

2026/744 - Organised crime

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Please provide the following information for the period from 1 June 2020 to 1 June 2026, broken down into one-month intervals.

- 1. For each month, please provide the number of recorded offences within the North Wales Police force area that were tagged, flagged, or otherwise marked in North Wales Police systems as relating to "organised crime".**
- 2. Please also explain how North Wales Police defines or applies the "organised crime" tag or marker, including the types or categories of offences that may be included.**
- 3. If possible, please also provide the current total number of organised crime groups or organised criminal gangs identified within the North Wales Police force area, subject to any applicable exemptions.**

If providing the information in one-month intervals would exceed the applicable Freedom of Information cost or time limit, please increase the interval length as necessary to bring the request within the limit, using the shortest intervals that can reasonably be provided.

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes.

We map our OCGs according to the NCA's definition

"Individuals, normally working with others, with the intent and capability to commit serious crime on a continuing basis, which includes elements of planning, control, coordination, structure and group decision-making."

The organised crime flag is not applied to a crime, it is applied to a person. There are person flags we can search on, however all occurrences linked to those individuals would require a manual review to ensure that the occurrences are OCG related. 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.

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,

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

but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

I can advise in relation to question 3, there are currently 53 OCGs mapped in the NWP force area; 27 are active and 26 are archived.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 05/08/2026