



Response Date:11/08/2026

2026/770 - Digital device seizures

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

The College of Policing has released a code of practice for filing DPNs across police forces in England and Wales in order to support the Data Protection Act of 2018. I would like the following information in regard to the North Wales Police Force For the period 1 Jan 2023 - 30 Jun 2026 (inclusive), please send me information on the following regarding the force's practice of digital device seizures:

1. How many of the following types of devices have been subject to data extraction or some other kind of digital forensic investigation: (i) mobile phones (ii) desktop computers (iii) other

Year	Mobile	Computer	Other	DPNa (*)
2023	1905	331	786	186
2024	1489	227	663	171
2025	1741	254	679	161
2026 (Jan- June)	813	109	357	78

* Approximate as these numbers account for 24 hour device extractions, which can also account for urgent cases. (number based on cases not exhibits)

The numbers above account for parent exhibit numbers, where a mobile device contains multiple SIMs, Memory Card etc the numbers are not accounted for similarly with computers and other.

2. How many Digital Processing Notices did the North Wales Police Force serve each year? If possible, please break these down by their sub-categories (DPNa, DPNb, DPNc)

I would like this information broken down by year,

Figures for DPNa supplied in question 1.

DPNb is purely a fact sheet or appendix of the DPNa, this is left with the victim or witness.

North Wales Police are not currently using the DPNc. however based on the process the DPNc would be served for each case submitted for an investigation.

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

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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