



Response Date:25/08/2026

2026/820 - Crimes committed under age of criminal responsibility

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;

please can you provide me the following information for the following years: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

1) How many crimes have been recorded by your force which are suspected to have been committed by children aged under 10 (below the age of criminal responsibility)

Calendar Year	OC11
2015	132
2016	211
2017	280
2018	271
2019	311
2020	194

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,
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2021	281
2022	288
2023	206
2024	187
2025	214

2) A breakdown of the crimes suspected to have been committed by children aged under 10 (below the age of criminal responsibility)

OC11	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
01. VAP	59	102	140	154	169	138	170	168	115	112	119
02. Sexual Offences	20	50	59	29	39	19	26	39	30	15	27
03. Robbery	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
04. Burglary Residential	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0
05. Burglary - Business and Community	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
06. Theft	9	11	11	19	34	4	10	8	3	14	6
08. Theft from Vehicle	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10. Arson & Criminal Damage	41	40	52	43	37	18	32	37	23	15	19
11. Drug Offences	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
12. Possession of Weapons	1	3	2	3	2	2	5	6	5	1	3
13. Public Order Offences	2	3	8	16	25	7	25	19	11	9	9
14. Misc Crimes Against Society	0	0	5	2	1	6	10	10	19	20	29
Sum:	132	211	280	271	311	194	281	288	206	187	214

3) A breakdown of ages and genders of suspects aged under 10 (below the age of criminal responsibility) associated with committing crimes

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Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. Children are not always flagged as suspect or offender, and therefore the occurrences will require review to extract which involved individual is the suspect. Therefore, 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 24/08/2026