



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:08/07/2025

2025/693 - Misidentification, Vulnerable Groups, and Community Resolutions in Stalking/Harassment Cases

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Thank you for your response dated 19/06/2025 to my Freedom of Information request (reference 2025/611). I appreciate the information provided regarding Community Resolutions and the confirmation of existing guidance on misidentification and handling of vulnerable individuals. However, I note that some parts of my request (Questions 1-3 and parts of Question 5) were exempt under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 due to the cost of retrieving the data exceeding the appropriate limit.

To assist in complying with the cost limits and to obtain the most relevant information, I would like to refine my request as follows:

Part 1 - Misidentification and Arrest of Victims

- 1. For the period 2021 to 2024 (reducing the timeframe from 2018-2024), please provide:**
 - **The number of individuals arrested on suspicion of stalking or harassment who were later identified as the victim rather than the perpetrator.**
 - **If available, a breakdown of these cases by gender (specifically noting any cases where misogyny was recorded as a factor).**
 - **If retrieving a full breakdown is too costly, please provide any aggregated data or summary statistics available without manual review of individual records.**
- 2. For the same period (2021-2024), please provide the number of these misidentified individuals who were:**
 - **Detained in custody.**
 - **Released without charge.**
 - **Subject to no further action.**
 - **If possible, indicate whether any of these cases involved individuals with recorded protected characteristics (e.g., disability, race/ethnicity, or sexual orientation) without requiring a detailed breakdown.**

Part 2 - Use and Misuse of Community Resolutions (CRs)**3. Thank you for providing data on Community Resolutions issued for harassment and stalking from 2018 to 2024. To clarify, please confirm if any Community Resolutions were issued specifically for:**

- **Stalking offences (e.g., under Section 2A or 4A of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997) for the years 2021-2024.**
- **If specific data on stalking is unavailable without exceeding cost limits, please provide any available aggregated data or policy guidance on the use of Community Resolutions for stalking offences.**

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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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- 4. For cases involving racially or religiously aggravated harassment or stalking without violence (as listed in your response), please provide any existing policy or training materials on the appropriate use of Community Resolutions in such cases, if not already covered in the materials referenced in Question 4 of the original response.**

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. This information is not held, just because someone has later been recorded as aggrieved does not necessarily mean they were misidentified in the original occurrence.

A manual search to look for any indication of misidentification and ensure relevance to your request would require a manual search, 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 (2), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) of the legislation.

Part 3 - Guidance and Training Materials.

Thank you for confirming the existence of guidance on misidentification of victims in stalking/harassment or domestic abuse incidents and handling of vulnerable individuals.

- 5. If possible, please provide copies of these materials or a summary of their key points, redacting any sensitive information as necessary.**

Public Protection (Core learning outcomes)

- Explain key considerations associated with Public Protection
- Explain the personal aspect of vulnerability
- Discuss key considerations associated with abuse / public protection suspects / offenders
- Identify a potential public protection incident when acting as a first responder to an unrelated incident Victims and Witnesses
- Understand the options available to protect and support victims and witnesses

- 6. If no specific guidance exists on mistaken arrests involving individuals with protected characteristics, please confirm whether general training on the Equality Act 2010 or handling protected characteristics is provided to officers dealing with stalking/harassment cases.**

The equality act is covered within the Valuing diversity 1.5-hour session ran by our force diversity officer. This session is held within the first 4 weeks of initial training.

I have narrowed the timeframe to 2021-2024 and focused on aggregated or summary data to reduce the need for manual record reviews. If any part of this refined request still exceeds the cost limit, please contact me to discuss further refinements or partial fulfilment options.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 03/07/2025