



**HEDDLU
GWENT
POLICE**



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2024/27183

Dear requester,

Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at, **Section 1(1) (a)**, is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at, **Section 1 (1) (b)**, is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

The information that you are seeking is in relation to the following:

REQUEST

With regard to safer neighbourhoods could you please provide the following data for the last 6 calendar months:

- 1) How many times has the "capture vehicle" been deployed ?
- 2) How many suspects have been arrested and detention in custody authorised from being identified as a result of smart water technology. Either as been contaminated in smart water or found in possession of property marked with smart water.

The "capture" vehicle is one of a number of assets deployed by Gwent Police to identify offenders and secure convictions, as explained on the Gwent Police Safer Neighbourhoods, We Don't Buy Crime leaflet. It makes this reference on the information sheet of the leaflet.

RESPONSE

- 1) How many times has the "capture vehicle" been deployed ?

The capture vehicle has been deployed three times in the last six months.

- 2) How many suspects have been arrested and detention in custody authorised from being identified as a result of smart water technology. Either as been contaminated in smart water or found in possession of property marked with smart water.



To find this information we would have to review each custody record to confirm if each arrest was in relation to smart water technology.

Unfortunately, we cannot answer this request as it will exceed the 18-hour time limit to complete a request. Within the last six months, there has been 5561 custody records. In order to retrieve the data, each record would need to be reviewed. It would take approximately ten minutes to review each individual record, which would equate to 926 hours of research. Therefore, a Section 12 Excess Cost exemption has been applied.

Section 12 – Excess Cost

The exemption applicable to the information you have requested for this question can be found at Section 12(1) of the Act and this refusal notice is issued under Section 17.

Section 12(1) “does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”

In the case of a police force, the appropriate limit is set at £450, which is calculated at £25 per hour (i.e. 18 hours). Gwent Police would have to conduct a manual search to find and extract the information for this question. This would take more than 18 hours of staff time therefore we are unable to answer this question and the exemption is engaged.

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Freedom of Information Act is a public disclosure regime, not a private regime. Any information disclosed under the Act is thereafter deemed to be in the public domain, and therefore freely available to the public and will be published on the Gwent Police website.

If, upon receiving a response to a freedom of information request, you are unhappy with the outcome, you may request an internal review. **This should be made within 40 working days of the initial response.**

Please direct any internal review requests to FOI@gwent.police.uk

You have the right to request an appeal from the Information Commissioners Office about your Freedom of Information request, if you are dissatisfied with your internal review response.

ICO Contact Details:

The Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF



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Tel: 0303 123 1113

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Thank you for your interest in Gwent Police.