



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/28069

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

#### **Calls for Service:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total calls for service [101/999]
- Total number of call related to 'mental health'
- Total number of calls related to 'suicide'
- Total number of 'safe and well checks' per year.

#### **Recruitment and retention:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number of police officers recruited as student officers each year
- Total number of resignations/dismissals from those recruited in the first 24 months of service

#### **Training:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number hours allocated to National Decision Model (NDM) Training for student officers in their first 24 months service.
- Is there an assessment process that assesses student officers' decision making in the first 24 months service.



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*If yes – please provide details of the assessment process used.*

- Does your force have NDM assessors – specifically tasked with reviewing decision making of student officers making in the first 24 months service?

*If no, is this part of the Police Action Checklist (or equivalent) for student officers with their tutor constable? e.*

- Does your force routinely review student officers' decision making to ensure it is accurate, consistent and effective.

*If yes, please provide the details of the review process and explain the methodology by which decisions are considered accurate, consistent and effective.*

- How many training sessions, by breakdown of mandatory training and additional training have been delivered to student officers on mental ill health, suicide, and suicide prevention in the first 24 months service.
- How many training sessions, by breakdown of mandatory training and additional training have been delivered to student officers on the college of policing suicide and bereavement response in the first 24 months service?
- Does your force train 'preventable harm' to student officers in the first 24 months of service? If yes, please provide details of the training delivered and the learning outcomes.

### **Procedure:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Does your force have a standalone suicide prevention policy? If yes, please provide details of that policy or a copy of it.
- Was your force engaged in the Department of Health and Social Care National Partnership Agreement: Right Care, Right Person ("RCRP")?
- Has your force engaged with the Crisis Care Concordat' ("CCC") that existed since 2014 to ensure partner agencies worked together to deliver a 'high quality response' in cases of mental illness?
- Does your force operate a mental health triage care (or equivalent)

*If yes, please provide details of the date the unit became effective, the shift pattern hours and the total number of officers allocated to this unit*



### Prevention of future death reports:

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number of prevention of future death reports issued by the Coroner to the Chief Constable
- Of those reports, the total number that related to a suicide incident.
- Of those reports, the total number that related to a death following police contact.

### RESPONSE

#### Calls for Service:

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total calls for service [101/999]
- Total number of call related to 'mental health'
- Total number of calls related to 'suicide'
- Total number of 'safe and well checks' per year.

The following data has been pulled using all calls recorded in calendar years 2019 – 2023. This data is accurate as of the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

Year	Call Type	
	999	101
2019	79364	218075
2020	76040	150776
2021	81292	151082
2022	98756	140719
2023	101834	145616

The below table provides the total number of incidents recorded as a mental health incident under the requested time frame where the method of reporting was recorded as 101 or 999.

Mental Health	
Year	Total
2019	10596
2020	12190
2021	12387
2022	13600
2023	14743
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>63516</b>



The below table provides total number of incidents recorded under the requested time frame where the method of reporting was recorded as 101 or 999 using the closing class sudden death/suicide.

Although we will receive a call in relation to a suspected sudden death or suicide, it is for the coroner and their court to determine the facts surrounding a death'.

Please note that we are unable to determine whether an incident recorded under this category is a suicide or a sudden death as this would require a manual which would take this over the time limit and would make this request exempt. (3,344 x 5 = 16,720 minutes/60 = 278+ Hours). Please find the following Section 12 exemption 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.

We appreciate that you may be disappointed on this occasion that we are unable to provide the requested information. However, under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we have a duty to assist you in relation to refining your request, where we may be able to answer some of your questions.

<b>Sudden Death/Suicide</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>
2019	759
2020	683
2021	579
2022	702
2023	621
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3344</b>

Please note that as we are unable to provide the number of welfare checks, the below table provides the total number of incidents recorded as a concern for safety in the requested time period.



<b>Concern for Safety</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>
2019	16059
2020	14175
2021	13610
2022	13365
2023	12031
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>69240</b>

### **Recruitment and retention:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number of police officers recruited as student officers each year
- Total number of resignations/dismissals from those recruited in the first 24 months of service

**The below table details the number of joiners and the number that have left the Force (pre 29/01/2025) with 24 months or less service:**

<b>Joining Year</b>	<b>No: Recruited Each Year</b>	<b>No: Left with 24 Months or Less Service</b>
<b>2019</b>	45	6
<b>2020</b>	108	26
<b>2021</b>	167	33
<b>2022</b>	189	28
<b>2023</b>	133	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>109</b>

### **Training:**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number hours allocated to National Decision Model (NDM) Training for student officers in their first 24 months service.

**Each student officer has a three-and-a-half-hour lesson on the National Decision Model. This is then reinforced throughout initial training in practical role play scenarios where each decision the student officer makes is underpinned by application of the NDM and this is scrutinised and tested by the training officer who observes and de-briefs the student officer after the scenarios.**



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- Is there an assessment process that assesses student officers' decision making in the first 24 months service.

**Yes – There is formative assessment in the lesson with a paper feed exercise that tests the officers understanding and application of the model in addition to the above considerations in each practical assessment. There are also summative assessments facilitated as part of their academic requirements, which will test NDM including an in-class test and written exercises.**

- Does your force have NDM assessors – specifically tasked with reviewing decision making of student officers making in the first 24 months service?

**Each trainer is qualified in training both through experience and academic qualification to equivalent of minimum of level 4 in education and training. There is no specific 'NDM' assessor, but all training staff have in depth knowledge and experience of application of the model, supported by their academic qualifications which covers how to assess learners.**

- Does your force routinely review student officers' decision making to ensure it is accurate, consistent and effective.

**In initial training, the decision making is reviewed routinely as above and feedback is provided and recorded and reviewed to ensure required improvements are made.**

- How many training sessions, by breakdown of mandatory training and additional training have been delivered to student officers on mental ill health, suicide, and suicide prevention in the first 24 months service.

**In initial training all student officers have an input on mental health covering the learning indicators decreed by the college of policing. In addition to this the student officers have an expert led input delivered by the force lead on mental health, and also specific inputs on suicide prevention and bereavement.**

**The Mental health lead additional input is an entire training day focusing on supporting those in crisis, the Mental Health Act and the Mental Capacity Act. We also cover in detail Section 136 detentions, Section 135 warrants, welfare checks, missing and absent without leave and hospital/mental health settings. Finally covering criminal investigation of those with a known or perceived mental illness, Right Care Right Person and police custody.**



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**The Second of the expert led input is another full day training on Suicide and Bereavement. This tailored input for officers focuses on a variety of areas – Suicide Prevention, Suicide Intervention and intervening with someone at risk or actively attempting suicide, Suicide Investigations, Suicide Postvention and bereavement, death messages, suicide contagion and coroner/inquest process and officer welfare. This package was developed between partners and police and has a number of agencies as part of the delivery.**

- How many training sessions, by breakdown of mandatory training and additional training have been delivered to student officers on the college of policing suicide and bereavement response in the first 24 months service?

**Each student officer receives the above training.**

- Does your force train ‘preventable harm’ to student officers in the first 24 months of service? If yes, please provide details of the training delivered and the learning outcomes.

**Self-Harm Prevention is covered briefly in the Suicide and Bereavement training but not as a standalone topic.**

### **Procedure**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Does your force have a standalone suicide prevention policy? If yes, please provide details of that policy or a copy of it.

**Suicide is part of the Sudden Death Policy; however, we have our own Suicide Review Panel who explore near miss suicides and suicides. This focuses on future prevention opportunities, partnership working with the Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Group and investigation review.**

- Was your force engaged in the Department of Health and Social Care National Partnership Agreement: Right Care, Right Person (“RCRP”)?

**The national partnership agreement is an England NHS initiative, we are supporting the NHS executive in Wales to progress here. This is discussed at the national RCRP working group which all Welsh forces are represented on alongside NHS and partners.**

- Has your force engaged with the Crisis Care Concordat’ (“CCC”) that existed since 2014 to ensure partner agencies worked together to deliver a ‘high quality response’ in cases of mental illness?



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The Crisis Care Concordat (CCC) transitioned into our local version as the “Mental Health Act Delivery Group”, which has been attended for many years by our Mental Health Liaison Officer and its primary focus is improvement for agencies respond to mental health (local councils, ABUHB, CMHT, A&E, primary care, Secondary MH, Police and third sector) all attend.

- Does your force operate a mental health triage care (or equivalent)

**Yes, we have a team of mental health professionals working in our force contact centre every day between 8am-2am. We utilise the 111 press 2 professionals' line outside of these hours.**

### **Prevention of future death reports**

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

- Total number of prevention of future death reports issued by the Coroner to the Chief Constable
- Of those reports, the total number that related to a suicide incident.
- Of those reports, the total number that related to a death following police contact.

**Please direct these questions to the Coroner's Office.**

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Please note, every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete.

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](mailto: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:





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Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

**Thank you for your interest in Gwent Police.**