



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/28094

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

**My request relates to your forces' arrest figures for drivers under the influence of drugs.**

**Please can you provide the numbers broken down month by month for 2024, from April onwards. I already have the figures for previous years from an earlier FOI request on your website.**

**If possible, please also indicate which drug was present in the bloodstream for each drug driving arrest.**

### RESPONSE

The data provided in the below table is based on custody footfall, this means that if someone was arrested for multiple 'drug driving offences' they will only be counted once as they were arrested once. If they were arrested on separate occasions, they will be counted each time they were brought to custody.

Please note, we are not able to indicate which drug was present in the blood stream for each arrest as this would be a manual trawl. It would take at least 5 minutes to review each occurrence and would also rely on this information being present on them.

428 records x 5 minutes per record = over 35 hours. As such, please find the following exemption applied below.



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Drug Driving Arrest	
Month	Total
April	54
May	58
June	45
July	54
August	35
September	35
October	39
November	44
December	64
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>428</b>

### **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.

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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.



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GWENT  
POLICE**



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:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113

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

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