



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/28258

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

**Under the FOI Act 2000, please provide the following:**

**The number of reported dog attacks (Home Office code 008/21 – owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales injuring any person or assistance dog) for the following dates:**

**Feb 1, 2020 – Jan 31, 2021**

**Feb 1, 2021 – Jan 31, 2022**

**Feb 1, 2022 – Jan 31, 2023**

**Feb 1, 2023 – Jan 31, 2024**

**Feb 1, 2024 – Jan 31, 2025**

**If there is time, and you are able, please provide me with the number of attacks involving XL Bully dogs for the last annual period (Feb 1, 2024, to Jan 31, 2025)**

**Please do not refer me to previous FOI requests as I'm compiling a national list, and the response need to be to the same questions.**

### RESPONSE

The below data is based on crime data for the recorded dates, using the crime code of 08/21 owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales injuring any person or assistance dog.



**HEDDLU  
GWENT  
POLICE**



| <i>Dog Attacks</i>        |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Date Range</b>         | <b>Total</b> |
| Feb 1, 2020 - Jan 31 2021 | 279          |
| Feb 1, 2021 - Jan 31 2022 | 335          |
| Feb 1, 2022 - Jan 31 2023 | 365          |
| Feb 1, 2023 - Jan 31 2024 | 426          |
| Feb 1, 2024 - Jan 31 2025 | 539          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>        | <b>1944</b>  |

There is no filter to identify whether the crime involved an XL bully. In order to find this information, a manual trawl would have to be conducted on all crimes for the date range Feb 1, 2024 – Jan 31, 2025.

There are 539 crimes recorded in this time period, and it would take at least 5 minutes to review each record. This would be over 44+ hours of work, which would exceed the 18-hour limit.

### **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.

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.**