



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/28874

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

Dear FOI Officer,

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 to date, please provide:

1. The number of individuals **arrested** under:
  - Section 1 of the *Malicious Communications Act 1988*
  - Section 127 of the *Communications Act 2003*
  - Offences created by the *Online Safety Act 2023* (including but not limited to cyberflashing, threatening communications, false communications, and epilepsy trolling offences)
2. Where available, please also provide the **outcome** of these arrests (e.g. charged, cautioned, released with no further action).

### RESPONSE

Please note that the software only provides data from 2020, therefore the data we have provided is based on January 2020 to December 2024.

Please note that the data presented in this table is based on custody footfall. This means:

- If an individual was arrested for multiple offences during a single custody event, they are counted once.



- If the same individual was arrested for the same offence on separate occasions, they are counted each time they entered custody.

Offence Title	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Cause to be sent by public communication network a false message to cause annoyance / inconvenience / anxiety	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
Cause to be sent by public communication network an offensive / indecent / obscene / menacing message / matter	2	3	3	3	5	8	24
Persistently make use of public communication network to cause annoyance / inconvenience / anxiety	3	1	9	5	10	14	42
Send by public communication network an offensive / indecent / obscene / menacing message / matter	106	79	83	119	126	71	584
Send communication / article of an indecent / offensive nature	43	41	35	61	42	17	239
Send communication threatening death or serious harm	0	0	0	0	14	11	25
Send false message by public electronic communication network to cause annoyance, inconvenience or anxiety	7	2	6	7	0	0	22
Send letter / communication / article conveying a threatening message	48	23	20	25	6	0	122
Send letter / communication / article conveying false information	0	5	1	0	1	0	7
Send letter / communication / article conveying indecent / offensive message	3	4	3	8	13	8	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>1107</b>

Please refer to the table below for a comprehensive list of disposals associated with each of the records mentioned above.

Please note the following:

- Multiple disposals may be linked to a single record.
- Disposals are subject to change and may be updated at any time.
- This table reflects the most current information available at the time of reporting.

Disposal Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Adult community resolution	2	3	6	2	5	2	20
Adult conditional caution	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Adult simple caution	15	4	3	0	1	0	23
Bail - court conditional	42	21	35	29	33	13	173



Bail - court unconditional	2	2	3	8	5	0	20
Bail - police conditional bail enquiries (Police)	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Bail - police conditional bail enquiries (Police);Court extension to police bail conditional - Investigation	0	1	4	2	1	0	8
Bail - police conditional bail enquiries (Police);Extension to police bail conditional - Investigation	12	27	28	71	68	30	236
Bail - police conditional bail enquiries (Police);Initial police bail conditional - Investigation	73	61	84	181	188	100	687
Bail - police conditional bail enquiries/advice TTP (CPS);Bail police conditional Section 37/7(a) Charge Decision	72	72	45	138	96	6	429
Bail - police unconditional bail enquiries (Police);Initial police bail unconditional - Investigation	0	0	1	4	2	0	7
Bail - police unconditional bail enquiries/advice TTP (CPS);Bail police unconditional Section 37/7(a) Charge Decision	0	0	1	0	3	0	4
Conditional caution	2	4	5	2	6	2	21
CPS charging decision (TWIF)	28	97	88	129	131	38	511
Fixed penalty	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Not charged CPS	44	49	48	89	50	12	292
Not charged Police	88	82	84	125	146	71	596
Other	10	15	8	12	15	6	66
Postal requisition	23	25	14	13	13	4	92
Prosecute via summons	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Refused bail	29	18	28	22	21	18	136
Released from bail under investigation	36	41	48	79	61	12	277
Released under investigation	30	27	22	14	11	18	122
Reported for consideration	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Transfer to another force	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
Youth restorative disposal	1	0	0	4	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>3738</b>

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



**HEDDLU  
GWENT  
POLICE**



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.**