



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/28839

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 Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information relating to Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) provision within your force. Where possible, please provide total counts disaggregated by gender where this information is recorded. I generally expect yes/no responses, but any additional context would be gratefully appreciated.

#### 1. Staffing and Deployment

- \* The number of officers/staff currently trained in DVI within your force (please indicate gender if recorded).
- \* The number of DVI-trained officers/staff deployed in the last five years, and the categories of incidents they were deployed to (please group as: terrorism, transport incidents, industrial accidents, and natural disasters) - total numbers only, to preserve anonymity.
- \* Which department or unit within the force is responsible for DVI planning and deployment.
- \* The typical length of service an officer/staff member remains active on the DVI roster once trained (e.g., average number of years, or whether there is a set term).
- \* Whether your force applies any suitability checks or criteria prior to deployment of DVI-trained officers (e.g., health, psychological readiness, or operational availability).



## RESPONSE

### 1. Staffing and Deployment

\* The number of officers/staff currently trained in DVI within your force (please indicate gender if recorded).

**Gwent Police currently has 37 trained Disaster Victim identification Foundation officers trained. (16 Male/21 Female)**

\* The number of DVI-trained officers/staff deployed in the last five years, and the categories of incidents they were deployed to (please group as: terrorism, transport incidents, industrial accidents, and natural disasters) - total numbers only, to preserve anonymity.

**Records from June 2023. Various numbers of officers deployed to each incident.**

**3 Road traffic accidents**

**4 Sudden death recovery's**

**2 Postmortems**

\* Which department or unit within the force is responsible for DVI planning and deployment.

**Any department could ask for DVI assistance. The deployment would be planned by the team itself, depending on the incident. Large scale deployments would be conducted with assistance of the emergency planning team from Gwent Police.**

\* The typical length of service an officer/staff member remains active on the DVI roster once trained (e.g., average number of years, or whether there is a set term).

**There is no set or typical length. Officers have to be out of their probation to join the team and can remain part of the team until they wish to come off. We have officers trained last year to an officer with 20 years' experience.**

\* Whether your force applies any suitability checks or criteria prior to deployment of DVI-trained officers (e.g., health, psychological readiness, or operational availability).

**Yes, Officers have to have physical check-ups at set timescales. They also get a yearly psychological screening as they are part of their role.**

**Any deployment out of Gwent Police would be led by Emergency planning and ensure the officer is up to date with set criteria before being deployed.**



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.**