



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/29016

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

Total number of reports of vans being broken into in the past 5 years, with a yearly and monthly breakdown if possible

Please can you also share the value of items stolen from vans over the past 5 years with a yearly and monthly breakdown, if you have this information.

RESPONSE

A key word search of “van” has been searched within the crime summaries from 2020 – 2024 under the offence title “theft from a motor vehicle”. Please note the key word search is restricted to the summaries, as a key word search of the full data log is not available. If the key word was not mentioned within the summaries, then it would not be highlighted for us to check.

The below table shows the number of crimes recorded under the offence title and key word.

Month/Year	Total
2020	
Jan	17
Feb	31
Mar	38
Apr	11
May	6



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Jun	14
Jul	15
Aug	19
Sep	12
Oct	18
Nov	18
Dec	21

2021	
Jan	17
Feb	7
Mar	10
Apr	6
May	14
Jun	5
Jul	14
Aug	10
Sep	7
Oct	12
Nov	11
Dec	16

2022	
Jan	18
Feb	13
Mar	17
Apr	11
May	7
Jun	10
Jul	10
Aug	16
Sep	9
Oct	9
Nov	13
Dec	10

2023	
Jan	9
Feb	12
Mar	13
Apr	13
May	11
Jun	14
Jul	24



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Aug	15
Sep	5
Oct	12
Nov	35
Dec	17

2024	
Jan	14
Feb	10
Mar	21
Apr	26
May	21
Jun	31
Jul	40
Aug	25
Sep	24
Oct	14
Nov	15
Dec	12

There were 925 crimes recorded under the offence title “Theft from a motor vehicle” and key word search of “van” from 2020 – 2024. To accurately identify the items stolen and value of those items, a manual trawl would need to be completed through each individual log, as there is no accurate way to filter this data. Therefore, this question is exempt on time (925 records x 10 minutes per log / 60 = over 154+ hours).

Please find Section 12 applied below.

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.



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

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

Thank you for your interest in Gwent Police.