



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2025/29081

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

This request concerns outstanding arrest warrants issued due to failure to appear in court, breach of bail, pre-trial absconding, or post-conviction absconding.

To minimise cost/time burden and avoid broad searches, all questions request existing, routinely held datasets or policy documents only.

Please provide the following:

A. Current Outstanding Warrants (as of your latest available month) The total number of individuals with outstanding arrest warrants.

A breakdown of these warrants by:

a. Offence category (e.g., murder, rape/sexual assault, child sexual offences, GBH, fraud, domestic abuse, drugs offences) b. Warrant type (failure to appear / breach of bail / pre-trial / post-conviction) c. Year of issue (e.g., pre-2000, 2000-2009, 2010-2019, 2020-present)

The year of the oldest currently outstanding warrant and the offence category associated with it (no personal identifiers required).

B. Trends (Existing, Recorded Data Only) For each of the past five calendar years (2019-2023), please provide:

a. Number of warrants issued  
b. Number of warrants executed



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(If exact annual figures are not held, please supply the closest equivalent routinely held statistic.)

C. Policies, Risk Assessments & Procedures Does your force have a formal policy or SOP for reviewing, prioritising or executing outstanding warrants?

If yes, please provide the document or the relevant excerpt.

What risk assessment criteria are used to determine warrant priority? (e.g., offence severity, threat to life, repeat offending, safeguarding concerns)

Does your force maintain a dedicated team/unit for locating individuals with outstanding warrants?

If yes, please state its name and staffing level (if recorded).

D. Use of Databases and Inter-Agency Cooperation Are all outstanding warrants routinely entered onto the Police National Computer (PNC)?

Does your force use external databases (e.g., NHS, DVLA, credit reference agencies, Passport Office, benefits databases) for warrant tracing where legally permitted?

Please summarise any policies or agreements concerning information-sharing with other UK forces, NCA, or Interpol, where relevant.

E. Victim Communication and Safeguarding Does your force have a policy for notifying victims when a suspect or convicted offender subject to a warrant remains unlocated?

How many individuals with outstanding warrants (current total) are convicted but not yet sentenced?

Format and Clarifications

I am not requesting names, DOBs or any personal identifiers.

## RESPONSE

A. Current Outstanding Warrants (as of your latest available month) The total number of individuals with outstanding arrest warrants.

**321 as of 03.12.2025**

A breakdown of these warrants by:

- Offence category (e.g., murder, rape/sexual assault, child sexual offences, GBH, fraud, domestic abuse, drugs offences)
- Warrant type (failure to appear / breach of bail / pre-trial / post-conviction)
- Year of issue (e.g., pre-2000, 2000-2009, 2010-2019, 2020-present)

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 x Armed Forces offences | 4 x Assault on Police      |
| 2 x Bail offences         | 54 x Breach of Court Order |



|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 3 x Burglary – Dwelling                        | 1 x Child Cruelty                  |
| 3 x Child Protection                           | 12 x Common Assault                |
| 11 x Common Law                                | 10 x Criminal Damage               |
| 3 x Cruelty to Animals                         | 52 x Drink/Drug Driving            |
| 1 x Drink/Licencing offences                   | 22 x Driving Whilst Disqualified   |
| 21 x Drug offences                             | 1 x Forgery                        |
| 6 x Fraud                                      | 1 x Handling                       |
| 5 x Harassment                                 | 4 x Health and Safety offences     |
| 1 x Immigration offences                       | 1 x Indecent Exposure              |
| 15 x Minor Road Traffic offences               | 2 x Obscene Publications           |
| 1 x Obstructing Police                         | 4 x Offensive Weapon               |
| 4 x Perverting Course of Justice               | 2 x Post Office/Telecommunication  |
| 20 x Protection of Food & Environment          | 2 x Public Order                   |
| 1 x Racial Hatred/Religious Hatred             | 1 x Rape                           |
| 1 x Robbery                                    | 8 x S.20, S.47, Serious Assault    |
| 1 x Serious Crime offences                     | 1 x Sex Offenders Registration     |
| 1 x Sexual Activity Abuse of Position of Trust | 9 x Sexual Assault/Sexual offences |
| 1 x Taking/Interfering with Conveyances        | 17 x Theft offences                |
| 5 x Threatening Behaviour                      | 1 x Tobacco Products offences      |
| 3 x Trade Disputes                             | 2 x Withholding Information        |

**Warrant Type:**

**4 x Wanted for Offence,  
317 x Fail to Appear**

**Year of Issue:**

**2010 – 2019 = 13**

**2020 – Present = 308**

**\*\*\*Please be aware that the total number of Live Warrants will not match the total number of offences/categories as some Subjects have 1 warrant for multiple offences\*\*\***

The year of the oldest currently outstanding warrant and the offence category associated with it (no personal identifiers required).

**2010 x 2 – 1 Sexual Activity Abuse of Position of Trust and 1 Fraud offence.**

B. Trends (Existing, Recorded Data Only) For each of the past five calendar years (2019-2023), please provide:

- a. Number of warrants issued
- b. Number of warrants executed

(If exact annual figures are not held, please supply the closest equivalent routinely held statistic.)

| Year | Issued | Executed |
|------|--------|----------|
|------|--------|----------|



|                         |      |     |
|-------------------------|------|-----|
| 01/01/2019 – 31/12/2019 | 931  | 722 |
| 01/01/2020 – 31/12/2020 | 999  | 769 |
| 01/01/2021 – 31/12/2021 | 959  | 821 |
| 01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022 | 1006 | 735 |
| 01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023 | 1062 | 757 |
| 01/01/2024 – 31/12/2024 | 1136 | 848 |

### **C. Policies, Risk Assessments & Procedures**

Does your force have a formal policy or SOP for reviewing, prioritising or executing outstanding warrants?

If yes, please provide the document or the relevant excerpt.

- **There is no specific policy. However, we work with College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice and PACE. Similarly, question D in respect of information sharing. We also have a sharing agreement with Interpol.**
- **Warrants are prioritised on their risk grading (High/Medium/Low) all of which are graded within the Warrants Management System, using Government grading:  
Grading categories  
Grade A –**
  - **Crown Court – Fail to Appear (FTA);**
  - **Prolific and priority (PPO) FTA/persistent young offender (DYO) FTA;**
  - **FTA for robbery and domestic abuse; and**
  - **Breach warrants for multi-agency public protection arrangement (MAPPA) cases.**
- **Grade B –**
  - **FTA for all notifiable offences;**
  - **FTA for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs; and**
  - **All other youth warrants.**
- **Grade C –**
  - **All other warrants.**
- **When conducting arrests, attending officers will use the national decision model in determining level of threat and working strategy, based on the intelligence to hand and preferred options and actions taken.**

What risk assessment criteria are used to determine warrant priority? (e.g., offence severity, threat to life, repeat offending, safeguarding concerns)

- **We do not believe police are responsible for making this determination and therefore no risk assessment criteria.**



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Does your force maintain a dedicated team/unit for locating individuals with outstanding warrants?

- **Responsibility rests with Neighbourhood Policing teams for arresting individuals wanted on warrant.**

If yes, please state its name and staffing level (if recorded).

#### **D. Use of Databases and Inter-Agency Cooperation**

Are all outstanding warrants routinely entered onto the Police National Computer (PNC)?

- **Yes, all Warrants are entered on PNC.**

Does your force use external databases (e.g., NHS, DVLA, credit reference agencies, Passport Office, benefits databases) for warrant tracing where legally permitted?

- **This would depend on the individual case and case requirements; it is not a routine process but something that may be used to help investigators.**

Please summarise any policies or agreements concerning information-sharing with other UK forces, NCA, or Interpol, where relevant.

- **There is no specific policy. However, we work with College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice and PACE. In respect of information sharing we also have a sharing agreement with Interpol. All our information held is readily accessible via the Police National Database.**

#### **E. Victim Communication and Safeguarding**

Does your force have a policy for notifying victims when a suspect or convicted offender subject to a warrant remains unlocated?

- **No.**

How many individuals with outstanding warrants (current total) are convicted but not yet sentenced? – (Clarification - I'm referring to the outstanding warrant offence)

- **Currently there are 249 warrants on the Warrant Management System.**

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



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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.**