



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 2024/277851

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

I would like to know how many arrests you made for alleged offences under Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 in the following years: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and the first nine months of 2024. Please can you provide separate figures for each year.

Please can you also provide the number of arrests made for alleged offences under Section of 1 Malicious Communications Act 1988, for the same time period and in the same year-by-year breakdown.

RESPONSE

Please note that a person may be arrested under one offence but then it may be dealt with via another offence, therefore we have provided the offence that they were arrested under.

The below information is based on custody footfall, this means that if someone was arrested for multiple offences, they will only be counted once as they were arrested once.

If they were arrested for the same offence separate times, they will be counted each time they came into custody.



Q1. Arrests Under Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003.

Year	Total
2020	110
2021	88
2022	117
2023	165
2024	120

Q2. Arrests Under the Malicious Communication Act 1988.

Year	Total
2020	74
2021	62
2022	61
2023	90
2024	43

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

However, it is important to note that data has been extracted from data sources used by this force for police purposes. The detail collected to respond specifically to your request is subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording systems and information assets.

The figures provided therefore are our best interpretation of relevance of data to your request, but you should be aware that the collation of figures/data for any requests may have limitations, and this should be taken into account when those data are used.

Please note, Police forces do not use generic systems or identical procedures for capturing the data. For these reasons the response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with responses you may receive from other police forces.

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.



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POLICE**



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.