HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE

Response Date:22/10/2026

2026/1043 - Use-of-force forms and required fields

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Please provide the following about the use-of-force reporting forms currently used by your force:

1) A blank copy of each form, including any separate forms for particular equipment or categories of incident. For electronic forms, please provide an existing printable version, screenshots or a form specification showing the questions and available responses.

2) Any existing field list, data dictionary or form specification identifying:
- Each question or data-entry field;
- Whether it is mandatory, optional or conditionally mandatory;
- Whether it requires free text, a selection from predefined responses, or another type of entry;
- Whether it is automatically populated;
- Any minimum narrative length or other validation requirement.

3)Existing documentation showing conditional questions or additional sections which appear depending on the answers entered, including sections triggered by injuries, children, particular tactics or equipment.

4) Any recorded counts of the total number of fields and the number requiring manual completion, including minimum and maximum counts where these have been assessed.

Please provide the current version number or implementation date for each form, where held.

If field counts are not held, please provide the underlying forms or specifications without undertaking a new counting exercise.

No completed individual reports are requested.

The Use of Force reporting forms are within the system we use – Niche RMS. Users can enter data into the Use Of Force module.

Harm has been identified in providing you with the information requested, we will conduct a public interest test to decide on disclosure;

The exemptions and data being considered in the public interest test are listed below:

Section 43 (2) Commercial Interests
Section 31 (1) Law Enforcement

Sections 43 and 31 are both qualified, with 43 being a class-based exemption and 31 prejudice based which means that the public authority must demonstrate that it is satisfied that to release the information would damage someone's commercial interests or our own law enforcement. The public authority must consider the balance of the public interest in releasing the information against the public interest in withholding it.

To provide details of the data fields within Niche RMS would be prejudicial to the commercial interests for the company. In turn, if the architecture of NicheRMS is revealed this has significant potential for the law enforcement position to be undermined.

Harm Test

Section 43

To provide data fields and whether a field is Mandatory or Optional is a factual response. However, the question requests specifically an understanding of the data fields in the system. Provision of such information would provide a clear indication of the NicheRMS schema which is a fundamental element of Niche Technology proprietary information.

Section 31
With information about the architecture, it becomes easier for any hacker to gain access to the system. Which would be detrimental to our day-to-day operations.

Public Interest Test

Factors Favouring Disclosure section 43 and section 31

There is a strong public interest in public authorities being open and transparent and disclosing data relating to the systems/forms we use and the fields within assists with this.

Factors Favouring Non - Disclosure section 43

Any response to this question would provide visibility (partial or whole) of NicheRMS schema into the public domain. Some of the data requested requires a factual response, however, the question requests disclosure of the data fields, mandatory or discretionary and specifically seeks an understanding of the data fields in the system. Provision of such information would provide a clear indication of the NicheRMS schema which is a fundamental element of Niche Technology proprietary information. The NicheRMS schema is never shared with Third Parties.

Niche Technology UK works in a limited market of suppliers. Details of the product, even at a high level provides information into the marketplace which could be used by competitors. Such information is not publicly disseminated or available to competitors, and Niche goes to great effort to prevent such disclosure whether in demonstrations or in public documentation. Direct and impactful competitive harm flows to Niche when its proprietary and confidential information is compromised through public disclosure to competitors. Niche seeks to retain the competitive advantages that this proprietary and confidential information affords it.

Factors Favouring Non - Disclosure section 31

There is a significant potential for the law enforcement position to be undermined if the architecture of NicheRMS is revealed. With information about the architecture, it becomes easier for any hacker to gain access to the system, which would have a significant impact on our day-to-day activities and operations.

Balancing Test

There are factors which in general terms favour release of this information, however, the factors favouring non-disclosure are more specifically relevant.

Releasing information which can be used by competitors and have a detrimental effect on a company would not be in the spirit of the Act. We cannot disclose information which would put companies at risk or create security issues or them or us.

My decision, therefore, is not to release this information.

Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (1) of the legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 20/10/2026