



HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE

Response Date:21/05/2026

2026/501 - Force Departments, Staffing and Vehicle Allocation

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

- 1. A list of the operational departments, commands, units, teams, or divisions currently maintained within the force**
- 2. For each department, command, unit, team, or division, please provide:**
 - **the name of the unit,**
 - **a brief description of its primary role or function,????**
 - **and the number of officers and/or staff assigned to it.**

Function	Officer	Staff	primary role or function
CAREER BREAK	5	6	Employees on a career break
CLEANING SERVICES		41	Cleaners
CORPORATE SERVICES	12	71	Press Office/Programme Office/Risk/Business Continuity/HMIC/Diversity/ Optimisation
CRIME SERVICES	345	249	PVPU/Scientific Support/Intel/SOCU & FMIT/CTP Wales
FINANCE AND RESOURCES	4	157	Facilities/Fleet/Finance/Procurement/ ICT/Legal/Chief Information Office/Training
FORENSIC COLLISION INV NETWORK		35	
JUSTICE SERVICES	21	140	Collisions/File build/Firearms licensing/DBS/Safety Camera unit/Witness care/Justice admin team
LOCAL POLICING	1062	351	Central/Eastern/Western/Community Safety & Custody
NATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS COUNCIL	9	38	
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	172	253	Control Room/Roads Policing/Ops Planning/Firearms
PEOPLE SERVICES	20	140	People Services
POLICE FEDERATION	2	2	Union
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS	14	23	Anti-corruption/Complaints/Vetting
RECRUITS	84		
UNISON		2	Union

1750 1508

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,
Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW
www.heddlugogleddcymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters,
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW
www.northwales.police.uk

Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
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3. Where readily available from existing records, please provide the approximate number of vehicles primarily allocated to each department, command, unit, team, or division.

Examples may include (where applicable):

- Firearms
- Firearms Training
- CID
- MOSOVO
- Roads Policing
- Response / Patrol
- Neighbourhood Policing
- Dog Unit
- Drone Unit
- Public Order
- Intelligence
- Custody
- Force Control Room
- Professional Standards
- Cyber Crime
- Rural Crime
- Economic Crime
- Major Crime
- Traffic
- Mounted Unit
- Marine Unit

This list is illustrative only and is not intended to limit the scope of the request.

If exact staffing or vehicle figures are considered exempt, or would exceed the cost limit under section 12 of the Act, I am willing to accept:

- rounded figures,
- approximate figures,
- headcount or vehicle bands,
- partial disclosure,
- or disclosure limited to primary operational departments only.
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For the avoidance of doubt, I am not requesting:

- vehicle registration numbers,
- fleet identifiers,
- covert vehicle information,
- deployment patterns,
- operational tactics,
- garage or storage locations,
- names of officers or staff,
- shift patterns,
- tactical capabilities,
- covert policing details,
- or any other operationally sensitive information beyond basic organisational structure and general resource allocation.

Summary Below of all current / Live Vehicles.

Department / Unit	Count of vehicles
CORPORATE SERVICES	38
DRIVER TRAINING	24
POOL VEHICLE	5

SEIZED PROPERTY	2
TRAINING	7
CRIME SERVICES DIV	66
COLLISION INVESTIGAT	5
CRIME SCENE INVESTIG	13
CYBERCRIME	3
DIGITAL FORENSICS	2
FMIT	4
PORTS POLICING	4
PORTS POLICING - DOGS	2
PVPU	33
FEDERATION	1
FEDERATION	1
FINANCE AND RESOURCES	44
CLEANERS	5
FACILITIES	2
LOGISTICS	13
MOBILE MECHANIC	2
POOL VEHICLE	5
SEIZED PROPERTY	3
SERVICING VEHICLE	14
FIREARMS ALLIANCE	31
ARMED ALLIANCE	31
LP AREA A (EASTERN)	72
APPOINTMENTS OFFICER	1
CID	7
CUSTODY NURSES	2
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING	3
OP TASKING TEAM	5
PACE OPS	2
PCT/ CRIME CAR	4
POOL VEHICLE	2
PROF DEVELOPMENT	4
RESPONSE	40
RURAL CRIME	1
SCHOOL LIAISON	1
LP AREA B (CENTRAL)	67
APPOINTMENTS OFFICER	1
CID	5
CUSTODY NURSES	2
ENGAGEMENT VAN	1

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING	6
PACE OPS	1
PCT/ CRIME CAR	5
PROF DEVELOPMENT	2
RESPONSE	43
SERVICING VEHICLE	1
LP AREA C (WESTERN)	76
APPOINTMENTS OFFICER	1
CID	9
CUSTODY NURSES	2
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING	11
PCT/ CRIME CAR	7
POOL VEHICLE	2
PROF DEVELOPMENT	2
RESPONSE	42
NAT POLICE CHIEFS CO	12
FCIN	9
OFFICE OF PCC	1
OPAL	2
OP. SUPPORT SERVICES	96
DOGS	12
DRONE UNIT	3
FATAL ENQUIRY OFFICE	3
FIREARMS ENQUIRY OFF	7
FIREARMS RANGE	2
GO SAFE	13
NEGOTIATOR	1
OPS PLANNING	4
POOL VEHICLE	1
PSU	13
ROADS CRIME UNIT	36
SPECIALS	1
PREVENT CENTRAL	14
CHECKPOINT	1
ION (INTEGRATED)	2
PREVENTATIVE POLICING	2
RURAL CRIME	2
SCHOOL LIAISON	5
WE DONT BUY CRIME	2
PREVENT EAST	11

CHECKPOINT	1
ION (INTEGRATED)	2
PREVENTATIVE POLICING	1
RURAL CRIME	2
SCHOOL LIAISON	3
WE DONT BUY CRIME	2
PREVENT WEST	18
CHECKPOINT	2
ION (INTEGRATED)	3
LICENSING	1
RURAL CRIME	3
SCHOOL LIAISON	6
WE DONT BUY CRIME	3
PROFESSIONAL STAND	1
PROF STANDARDS	1
Grand Total	547

Harm has been identified in providing you with any additional information;

To provide any details relating to certain unmarked police vehicles would decrease their effectiveness and undermine our law enforcement.

Unmarked vehicles allow officers to visit members of the public without local communities knowing and covert operations need to be carried out with no obvious visible signs of police presence if identified it would decrease their effectiveness and undermine our law enforcement.

Some specialist vehicles carry expert equipment which if identified would make them more vulnerable to criminality. Personal issue vehicles may be used by non-North Wales Police employees therefore if these vehicle were identified the health and safety of individuals driving the vehicles would be an issue.

Although your request only asks for numbers and it seems the numbers would not divulge any information in relation to covert/sensitive vehicles, however together with information provided under previous Freedom of Information requests and therefore already in the public domain it may be possible to determine the number of these vehicles.

Therefore, Section 31 (1) (a) (b) (c) Law Enforcement is to be considered as part of the Public Interest Test. A Public Interest Test has been carried out to weigh up the reasons for and against disclosure of the information requested, to ensure the release is in the interest of the public as a whole and not just the applicant.

Section 31 (1) (a) (b) (c) Considerations

North Wales Police are charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve.

Unmarked police vehicles maximise operational efficiency and functionality during covert and specialist operations and core policing. Releasing the information regarding certain unmarked police vehicles and VRNs would render important policing functions as useless and would hinder the prevention and detection of crime by potentially compromising operations.

Section 31 factors in favour of disclosure

The use of police resources is a matter that the force should hold up to public scrutiny as the police are accountable for public funds; therefore there is a public interest in justification of the spending of these funds.

Section 31 factors in favour of non-disclosure

The Police Service has a duty to deliver effective law enforcement ensuring the prevention and detection of crime, apprehension or prosecution of offenders and administration of justice is carried out appropriately. By disclosing details of certain unmarked vehicles would compromise the vehicles operational purpose, as specialist vehicles could be targeted. Therefore release of this information could provide a tactical advantage to offenders which would negatively impact on public safety and undermine the policing purpose.

Release of the information requested would provide the criminal fraternity with intelligence that would assist them with their activities which could allow them to alter their behaviour to avoid detection.

Balance Test

Whilst North Wales Police is accountable for the spending of public money, we must protect any information that would negatively impact on any operation or reveal our tactical capabilities. If all the details requested were released it would allow the vehicles to be identified and targeted by criminals, which in turn would cause harm to officers with the vehicles and put the vehicles at risk of being cloned. To identify how many of each type of specialist vehicle would affect our ability to use these vehicles for their intended purpose which would not be in the public interest.

When balancing the public interest test we have to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosure is accountability which needs to be compared to the strongest negative reason, which in this case is effective law enforcement. Public Safety and effective law enforcement is of paramount importance and the Police Service will not divulge information if to do so would place the safety of an individual at risk or undermine the prevention or detection of crime thereby assisting those persons intent on committing crime.

Therefore, at this moment in time, it is our opinion that for these issues the balancing test for disclosure of the information regarding details of certain unmarked vehicles is not made out.

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 20/05/2026