HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES POLICE

Response Date:21/10/2026

2026/1062 - Missing Children and Child Sexual Exploitation

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Please could you provide the following information for each of the financial years 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26:

1. **The total number of missing person incidents involving children aged 17 or under recorded by your force.**
2. **Of those missing person incidents involving children aged 17 or under, the number where a child sexual exploitation (CSE) marker, flag or equivalent vulnerability marker was recorded against the missing person incident.**

Please provide the figures broken down by financial year.
I am seeking aggregate figures only and am not requesting any personal data or information that could identify individual children.
If your force does not use a specific CSE marker, please provide the equivalent figure using the closest relevant category or marker available in your systems, and please specify the category used.

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. To obtain the information in the format you have requested would involve manually reviewing each record on our force system. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (FOI) Fees and Appropriate Limit regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the FOI Act 2000 the information you have requested is exempt under Section 12 (1), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) of the legislation.

Although excess cost removed the forces obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Q1: Count of occurrences involving Missing Persons with involved classification indicating nominal is missing and Nominal age at time under 17. Some nominals may be involved in the occurrence but the not missing person; a review of the below raw data is suggested, although impractical based on volume.

Fiscal Year	Occurrences
2021	1610
2022	1971
2023	2498
2024	2253
2025	2851
5	

Q2: Count of occurrences involving Missing Persons with involved classification indicating nominal is missing and Nominal age at time under 17 and Nominal is flagged as CSE. Some nominals may be involved in the occurrence but the not missing person; a review of the below raw data is suggested, although impractical based on volume.

Fiscal Year	Occurrences where involved hassing CSE nominal flag (may not have been in place at time of occurrence)
2021	34
2022	59
2023	159
2024	46

Fiscal Year	Occurrences with CSE occurrence qualifier
2021	12
2022	7
2023	3
2024	2

2025	169
5	

2025	1
5	

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 15/10/2026