



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:21/05/2026

2026/387 - Royal Visit 2 April St ASAPH

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Royal Visit 2 April St ASAPH

How many staff were involved in preparation for this event? 34

At what cost? £42,941

How many staff were involved on the day?

At what cost?

This is not a request for "extra" costs associated with the visit. This is a request for a cost of resources deployed even if you used staff who were already on the payroll.

Concerns have been raised in relation to providing you with the number of 'staff involved on the day' and the cost.

We can confirm information relevant to your request is held. However, this information is being substantively withheld under Section 24(1) and 31 (1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. These are qualified, prejudiced based exemptions, and we have therefore considered the harm in providing the information along with a public interest test.

Section 24 (1) National Security Section

Section 31(1)(a) Law Enforcement

The Harm Test process requires North Wales Police to consider any possible harm that might arise as a result of placing the requested information into the public domain. This process considers the potential harm to:

- Individuals
- The community as a whole
- North Wales Police and the wider policing service
- Other bodies

Harm

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
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK**

A disclosure under the Freedom of Information Legislation is a disclosure to the world, not just to the individual making the request, once the information is published the force has no control over what use is made of that information.

Releasing the information requested would provide individuals with information to ascertain staffing levels and/or security measures at an event attended by The King. It would therefore provide those intent on committing acts of crime/terrorism with valuable information as to the level of resistance they might expect to encounter when committing such an act. The release of information could assist a potential terrorist in planning an attack which would threaten the the United Kingdom's constitutional arrangements, and thus the nation's security.

Furthermore, there is evidence that those planning terrorist attacks have made use of a wide range of sources when gathering information on their targets, including press reports, which were combined with physical reconnaissance to build a picture of an individual's protection level. To reveal information showing levels of protection to those intent in causing harm would increase the risk of harm to individuals who may be in receipt of protection and to the general public within their vicinity.

To disclose this information would also reveal tactical staffing capability and would place North Wales Police at a tactical disadvantage. The risk to public safety cannot be ignored and the Police Service has a responsibility to ensure safety of individuals is protected at all times. Modern day policing is intelligence led and law enforcement depends upon the development of intelligence and the gathering and security of evidence in order to disrupt criminal behaviour and bring offenders to justice.

Factors favouring disclosure Section 24

To disclose a breakdown of staffing involved in this event would adhere to the principle of being open and transparent. Disclosure would lead to better public awareness surrounding the deployment of resources by providing openness and transparency in relation to staffing.

Factors favouring non-disclosure Section 24 . Specific protection arrangements are implemented in order to safeguard national security by ensuring that appropriate safety and security is provided to The King. The disclosure of information that undermines security operations would ultimately increase the risk of harm to those who may be afforded personal protection and to the general public within their vicinity. Providing numbers of operational capabilities at an event attended by The King, including staffing and vehicles, would allow individuals to identify our capabilities, therefore undermining the use of such factors.

Factors favouring disclosure Section 31

Providing information in relation to events and the protection of individuals would allow the public to see where public funds are being spent. Better public awareness may assist to reduce crime or lead to more information from the public which would aid us in preventing and detecting crime, thus increasing public confidence.

Factors favouring non-disclosure Section 31

Release of the information requested could be used to identify resources used at specific events which would be harmful to the security of individuals, and would lead to law enforcement tactics being compromised. This would ultimately hinder the prevention and detection of crime. Security arrangements and tactics are re-used and have been monitored by criminal groups, fixated individuals and terrorists. Protection is provided in various forms after careful evaluation of the threat and risks posed to individuals by operational experts in this field of policing. Consequently it would not be in the public interest to release information that would negate the benefits of that protection and place individuals at risk. This would be any individuals who may receive protection, police officers providing protection and any member of the public in the vicinity of such individuals.

Balancing test

Disclosing the information requested would allow inferences to be made about the establishment and deployment capability of officers and staff deployed to events such as this locally and nationally. The security of the country is of paramount importance and the Police service will not divulge information if it is considered harmful, if to do so would place the safety of any individual in receipt of protection at risk or undermine National Security. Whilst there is a public interest in the transparency of policing operations and providing assurance that the police service is appropriately

and effectively engaging with the threat posed by a terrorist attack, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding both national security and the integrity of police investigations and operations in the highly sensitive area of terrorism prevention.

After weighing up the competing interests I have determined that to provide the requested information would not be in the public interest.

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

Graffiti appeared on a church wall saying "Not Our King"

Was this reported as a crime?

Can I have a copy?

Was this dealt with as a crime?

Can you release any details?

We can confirm information relevant to your request is held. However, this information is being substantively withheld under Section 30 (1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 30 (1)(a) – Investigations & proceedings conducted by a public authority

Section 30 (1)(a) is a qualified and class-based exemption and thus a consideration of the public interest must be provided upon disclosure. Please see the reasoning below.

ICO guidance on the use of the Section 30 (1) exemption states:

"Section 30(1) provides an exemption from the duty to disclose information that a public authority has held at any time for certain investigations or proceedings. As long as the other requirements of the exemption are satisfied, the exemption will apply to information even if it was not originally obtained or generated for one of those purposes and it will continue to protect information even if it is no longer being used for the specified investigation or proceeding. It is only necessary for the information to have been held at some point for those purposes"

Furthermore, the guidance on the use of Section 30 goes on to say "It is not necessary that the investigation leads to someone being charged with, or being convicted of an offence. However, the purpose of the investigation must be to establish whether there were grounds for charging someone, or if they have been charged, to gather sufficient evidence for a court to determine their guilt. Section 30(1)(a) will still protect information if a police investigation fails to establish that an offence has been committed, or concludes that there is insufficient evidence to charge anyone".

Factors favouring disclosure

Disclosure of the information requested would lead to a better-informed general public and an awareness of historical information. This would further promote public trust in providing transparency and demonstrating openness and accountability.

Factors favouring non-disclosure

The information requested relates directly to an occurrence which is ongoing and subject to further investigation. Therefore, disclosure of any material held for the purposes of a criminal investigation has the potential to undermine any criminal proceedings which could arise.

Additionally, disclosure would suggest that North Wales Police take their responsibility to appropriately handle and manage information provided by individuals to assist with criminal investigations flippantly and dismissively. This would significantly reduce public confidence and deter individuals from reporting crimes to the Police.

Balancing test

The Police Service is tasked with enforcing the law and protecting the community we serve and there is a public interest argument in ensuring we are open and transparent with regard to policing investigations. However, the ability of North Wales Police to conduct enquiries is crucial to the

principles of prevention and detection of crime. We are unable to disclose information which could potentially form part of proceedings down the line.

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

**It was reported that a police vehicle was used to hide the vandalism from the royal gaze?
Is this true?**

Can I have a copy of any instruction that was given to do this?

North Wales Police do not hold any information in relation to this part of your request.

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