



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:21/05/2026

2026/514 - ANPR in Vehicles

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

The total number of police vehicles currently operated by the force (including marked and unmarked vehicles)

We currently have 545 current / live vehicles (excluding any sensitive vehicles)

Harm has been identified in providing you with any details relating to sensitive vehicles/covert police vehicles.

A Freedom of Information Act request is not a private transaction. Both the request itself, and any information disclosed, are considered suitable for open publication. This is because, under Freedom of Information, any information disclosed is released into the wider public domain, effectively to the world and not just to one individual.

Therefore, Section 31 (1) 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.

Harm

Disclosure of sensitive vehicles/covert fleet information would be of intelligence value to individuals or groups with criminal or malicious intent. It will show our capability. It will compromise covert operations

Public Interest Test

S31(1) - Factors favouring disclosure: Disclosure would reassure the public that police forces maintain appropriate vehicles and resources to deliver services effectively. It could also demonstrate that public funds are being used responsibly and that vehicles are fit for purpose.

S31(1) - Factors favouring non-disclosure: Releasing detailed fleet information, would provide criminals with a tactical advantage by revealing operational capabilities and specialist resources.

It could compromise covert policing and allow offenders to take steps to evade detection or destroy evidence. These risks would undermine law enforcement effectiveness and negatively impact public safety.

Balance Test:

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

The public interest in transparency does not outweigh the substantial risk of harm caused by disclosure. Publishing detailed fleet specifications would allow those with criminal or hostile intent to build a mosaic picture of police capabilities, evade detection, and exploit vulnerabilities.

Such outcomes would compromise policing operations, increase risks to officers and the public, and require significant resources to counteract the harm. Therefore, disclosure is not in the public interest.

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

The number of those vehicles fitted with onboard Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) video recording systems

We currently have 30 vehicles with ANPR fitted. 20 Marked vehicles and 19 Unmarked vehicles.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 15/05/2026