



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 230/2021

Request:

Do you hold the following information:

The number of stop and searches carried out for the months:

March 2019

April 2019

May 2019

June 2019

July 2019

August 2019

September 2019

October 2019

November 2019

December 2019

January 2020

February 2020

March 2020

April 2020

May 2020

June 2020

July 2020

August 2020

September 2020

October 2020

November 2020

December 2020

January 2021

February 2021 (if available)

2. For each of the months above, the number of searches that resulted in arrest

2. The ethnic group of each person stopped and searched (expressed as monthly percentages if easier)

Response:

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

Dyfed-Powys Police are unable to confirm or not whether we hold information relevant to your request, since we consider that the Section 12(2) exemption the Cost of Compliance exceeds the Appropriate Limit applies to it.

Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Dyfed-Powys Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

Section 12(2) – The cost of compliance exceeds the Appropriate Limit

Section 12(2) states: "...Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit."

The cost of providing you with the information requested in respect of your request is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. It is estimated that it would exceed 18 hours (i.e. minimum of **558.42 hours**) to comply with this part of your request. The regulations can be located @

www.legislation.hms.gov.uk/si/si2004/20043244.htm

The Freedom of Information Unit has been advised by the relevant department that in order to establish what information, if any, is recorded in relation to **Questions 2** would exceed the appropriate time limit i.e. 18 hours. This is due to the fact that the information requested is not specifically recorded on force systems therefore in order to establish the information which is relevant to the request would require an individual interrogation of all the Stop and Search records against the data recorded on the Custody system.

It has been established that there is a total of **6,701 records** that would require individual interrogation and it has been estimated that it would take a minimum of **5 minutes** to research each individual record the relevant time estimate is detailed below:

- 6,701 records x 5 minutes per record = **558.42 hours**.

Therefore total time estimate to complete Questions 2 = 558.42 hours.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for the **WHOLE** of this request under Section 17(5) A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is relying on a claim that section 12 or section 14 applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact. You may wish to refine and resubmit your request so that it reduces the time shown above to fall within the 18 hours. Should you require any further advice in relation to this matter please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please also be advised that should the request be refined, it does not remove the Force's right to cite exemptions if relevant.

Although excess cost removed the force's 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.

Question 1:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested, as outlined below.

Month/Year	Stop & Searches
March 2019	256
April 2019	259
May 2019	279
June 2019	221
July 2019	351
August 2019	191
September 2019	207
October 2019	248
November 2019	233
December 2019	271
January 2020	368
February 2020	301
March 2020	331
April 2020	357
May 2020	400
June 2020	400
July 2020	317
August 2020	238
September 2020	217
October 2020	182
November 2020	263
December 2020	194
January 2021	283
February 2021	334

Question 2:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested, as outlined below.

Month/Year	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other	White	Not stated
March 2019	8	1	2	0	224	21
April 2019	4	2	1	0	237	15
May 2019	3	1	1	0	240	34
June 2019	0	0	2	0	197	22
July 2019	2	3	0	0	300	46
August 2019	2	3	3	0	153	30
September 2019	0	1	1	0	189	16
October 2019	3	0	3	0	224	18
November 2019	2	3	6	1	201	20
December 2019	0	1	1	0	243	26
January 2020	4	0	2	0	311	51
February 2020	3	5	1	0	270	22

March 2020	7	0	5	0	298	21
April 2020	8	1	4	1	303	40
May 2020	3	4	3	0	340	50
June 2020	1	4	3	0	350	42
July 2020	4	4	2	1	271	35
August 2020	0	1	6	0	209	22
September 2020	4	1	4	0	175	33
October 2020	6	0	0	0	148	28
November 2020	2	1	5	0	216	29
December 2020	4	0	1	0	168	21
January 2021	0	4	1	0	249	29
February 2021	1	2	3	0	284	34

It should be noted that as a result of the systems adopted by Dyfed-Powys Police in relation to the recording of such information that the information released may or may not be accurate.