



Heddlu Police
DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 13/2022

Request:

I would like to request the following information:

1. How many incidents have you had reported to you about a suspected spiking by injection per month for the following years and months?

	September	October	November	December
2017				
2018				
2019				
2020				
2021				

2. Please complete as much of this table as you can, for those incidents reported to you between 1 September – 31 December 2001 (inclusive).

Incident	Victim sex	Suspect sex	Victim known to suspect?	Location of incident (street, nightclub, private residence etc)	Were any other allegations made alongside the needle spiking? (e.g. rape, sexual assault, robbery)? Please list	Which drugs have been identified as being injected? (please mark as C for confirmed or S for suspected)	Location of needle stick wound on victim's body (upper back, leg, arm etc.)	Has suspect been identified? a) No suspect has been identified b) Suspect has been identified but investigation has been closed with no CJS outcome c) Suspect is under investigation but has not yet been charged d) Suspect has been charged e) Suspect has received a different CJS outcome (e.g. caution, community resolution) – please list	For those suspects charged, please list the offences they were charged with	For those suspects charged, please list any known outcomes
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

(Please extend table if necessary)

Clarification sought:

Are you referring to incidents or crimes?

Response to clarification from applicant:

Thank you for your response. My request is about incidents, however some forces have responded to say they can only search for these terms within crimes - if this is the case for your force then this would alternatively be adequate as long as I am aware the data refers to crimes not incidents.

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.

I can confirm that the cost of determining whether any information relative to question 1 of this request is or isn't held is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond therefore we are withholding the whole of the requested information 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. The following exemption has been applied to the whole of the information you have requested:

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 determining what information is held, if any, relevant to question 1 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 **40,602.33** hours) to comply with your request. The regulations can be located @ www.legislation.hms.gov.uk/si/si2004/20043244.htm

The Freedom of Information Department has been advised that the information in respect of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format as there is no specific category that relates to spiking by injection. As there is no specific category, in order to establish what information, if any, is held in relation to question 1 of the request of all incidents under all categories over the time frame specified would need to be

reviewed/interrogated to identify if the incident in question related to spiking by injection. It has been established that for the period as specified within the request (i.e. Sept to Dec; 2017 - 2021) there are a total 243,614 incidents that would require researching. It has been estimated that it would take a minimum of 10 minutes to research a single incident for relevance to question 1 of your request as outlined above, resulting in the following broken down time estimate.

2017 (Sept - Dec)	=	48,592	incidents@ 10 minutes per incident	=	8,098.67	hours
2018 (Sept - Dec)	=	48,308	incidents@ 10 minutes per incident	=	8,051.33	hours
2019 (Sept - Dec)	=	49,364	incidents@ 10 minutes per incident	=	8,227.33	hours
2020 (Sept - Dec)	=	46,559	incidents@ 10 minutes per incident	=	7,759.83	hours
2021 (Sept - Dec)	=	50,791	incidents@ 10 minutes per incident	=	8,465.17	hours

Total of 40,602.33 hours to complete task

Please note: A response to question 2 of your request can only be established once a response to question 1 has been ascertained.

Pleas also note: Dyfed Powys police are unable to complete keyword searches on the systems used to record incidents due to law enforcement issues. In addition, to answer your request in relation to crimes would also exceed the 18 hour time limit/threshold equating to approximately 736 hours as 4,433 crimes would need to be reviewed for relevance to question 1 of your request. Dyfed Powys police is able to conduct keyword searches on the crime system however, those keywords would need to be stipulated by the applicant. It should also be noted that information retrieved via keyword searches may not be a true and accurate representation of the data held on those systems e.g. words that are mis-spelt slightly would not appear on the searches but that record could still be relevant to the request when reviewed manually. Please also be advised that should the request be refined, it does not remove the Force's right to cite exemptions if relevant.

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, however with due regard to the time estimate provided above it is unlikely that refining your request will fall under the 18 hours as the same method and format will have to be undertaken. Should you require any further advice in relation to this matter please don't hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Unit.

(This is a response under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and disclosed on 18/01/22)