



FOI ref: 375/2014

Request

How many under 18s across the force area have been found to be in possession of illegal substances?

We would be grateful for the statistics for the calendar years 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Clarification

"Please would you clarify whether your request relates to the number of drugs offences (possession) involving those under 18, or are you referring to under 18s arrested for drug offences (possession)?"

"If possible, I'd like both figures please"

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 there is information held relevant to your request and is recorded below:

1. Number of relevant crime records held relating to drugs offences (possession) recorded as involving those under 18 is:

2011 – 220

2012 – 239

2013 – 230

Please note that the above figures relate to the number of offences recorded.

2. Number of under 18's arrested for drugs offences (possession)

2011 - 214

2012 - 218

2013 – 209

Please note

It should be noted that owing to the systems adopted by Dyfed-Powys Police in relation to the recording of such matters the information provided may or may not be accurate.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data.

For these reasons this Force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

This is a response under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and disclosed on 27 June 2014