

13 February 2025

Dear

ATISN 23276 – Mental Health Sectioning

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 20 January 2025

You have requested the following:

From 2019 and on a quarterly basis:

1. *The number of 18–25-year-olds sectioned under the Mental Health Act.*

Our Response

We do not currently hold data by age on the number sectioned under all sections of the Mental Health Act. Though this is currently in the process of being collected for future publications. However, we do currently hold data on those between the ages of 18-25 who are detained under sections 135 and 136 of Mental Health Act since 2019 and this is provided in the table below:

We did not start to collect/publish the data until Q1 2019/20 so only have data available from that point so do not have from the beginning of 2019 as requested.

Number of Section 135/136 Detentions During the Quarter	
Date	18 to 25 Years of Age¹
Quarter ending June 2019	160
Quarter ending September 2019	156
Quarter ending December 2019	147
Quarter ending March 2020	125
Quarter ending June 2020	96
Quarter ending September 2020	100
Quarter ending December 2020	81
Quarter ending March 2021	141
Quarter ending June 2021	169
Quarter ending September 2021	135
Quarter ending December 2021	119
Quarter ending March 2022	124
Quarter ending June 2022	122
Quarter ending September 2022	158
Quarter ending December 2022	139
Quarter ending March 2023	140
Quarter ending June 2023	165
Quarter ending September 2023	155
Quarter ending December 2023	142
Quarter ending March 2024	154
Quarter ending June 2024	151
Quarter ending September 2024	146

¹ This relates to a person's age on the day when:

- the warrant allowing the police to enter a person's home is executed (Section 135)
- the police encountered the person (Section 136)

Next Steps

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response.

We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
CARDIFF,
CF10 3NQ
Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
CHESHIRE,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,