

Chief Constable
Chief Constable Robert Carden
Police Headquarters
Carleton Hall Penrith,
Cumbria
CA10 2AU



10th December 2024

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1049/24 Palestine Action

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 21st of November 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

This is an information request relating to the costs associated with policing the direct-action group, Palestine Action.

Please provide the following cost information in relation to any protests organised by Palestine Action that have been held in your force area between 30 July 2020 and the present day:

- *Opportunity cost*
- *Overtime*
- *Internal fleet*
- *External fleet hire*
- *Hotels*
- *Catering*
- *Infrastructure*
- *Ad hoc*

By protest, I am referring to marches, sit-ins and similar activities in public spaces. I am explicitly not asking about any criminal damage done to commercial, residential or government property.

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To identify the costs associated with policing the direct-action group Palestine Action this would require identifying all events held within Cumbria and cross referencing these with the activity of all officers on duty during that time. I have estimated that the time required to do this will significantly exceed the “appropriate limit”, as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The current limit for police forces is set at £450, which equates to 18 hours of work.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. In view of this, and in accordance with Section 17(5) of the Act, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice for your request, by virtue of Section 12(1).



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In accordance with the duty under Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance), I regret to say that on this occasion I am unable to offer you any advice or assistance to help you to refine your request so that the time required would be within the “appropriate limit”.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Cumbria Constabulary.



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