

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



27th November 2024

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 997/24 – Shotgun and Firearms Licences

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 6th November 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. The total number of new shotgun and firearm licences granted to an applicant for the first time each year for the last five years.*
- 2. The total number of shotgun and firearm licences that were successfully renewed each year for the last five years.*
- 3. The total number of first-time applicants who had an application for a firearm or shotgun licence refused each year for the last five years.*
- 4. The total number of applications for the renewal of a firearm or shotgun licence that were refused, each year for the last five years.*

*I would be grateful if this is able to include data for 2024, year to date, if possible.
Please could you also list data for shotgun licences and firearms licences separately?*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm that the information you seek is held by Cumbria Constabulary however, I am not obliged to disclose all this to you.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act requires a public authority, when refusing to provide the information requested, to provide a notice which: -

- States that fact,
- Specifies the exemption in question and
- States, if it would not otherwise be apparent, why the exemption applies.

The exemption which applies in this case is **Section 21(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act – **Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means**.

This section applies because the information you have requested is already in the public domain. Data is published on the gov.uk website for the years you have requested. For your convenience, I have provided a link below to where you can access the information requested.



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD

Proudly supporting those who serve.



[Statistics on firearm and shotgun certificates, England and Wales: April 2023 to March 2024](#)
[- GOV.UK](#)

Section 21(1) is an absolute exemption, which means that it is not necessary for me to consider whether the public interest considerations in favour of withholding the information outweigh the considerations in favour of disclosing it to you in response to your request.

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for your request.

I can however provide you with data for the current year, as this information has not yet been published.

Answer

1. The total number of new shotgun and firearm licences granted to an applicant for the first time - **Shotgun = 298 Firearm = 157**
2. The total number of shotgun and firearm licences that were successfully renewed – **Shotgun = 1052 Firearm = 628**
3. The total number of first-time applicants who had an application for a firearm or shotgun licence refused – **Shotgun = 19 Firearm = 6**
4. The total number of applications for the renewal of a firearm or shotgun licence that were refused – **Shotgun = 12 Firearm = 7**

Whilst every care has been taken in the retrieval of the information provided, please do not hesitate to contact us for clarification, if you do have any issues or queries relating to this data.

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.



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD
Proudly supporting those who serve.

