

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



13 March 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 235/25

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 20 February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I would like to request the following information as part of my dissertation investigating how drink spiking differentiates from the United Kingdom and other countries.

Can I please have the following numbers relating to:

- 1) How many incidents of drink spiking were recorded by your force from the years 2019-2024?***
- 2) What was the location of the drink spiking incidents from the years 2019-2024?***
- 3) How many cases of drink spiking resulted in a court case/prosecution from the years 2019-2024?***
- 4) How many cases from the years 2019-2024 were successful? I.e., was the offender charged?***

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm Cumbria Constabulary does hold some information relevant to your request and where this is the case, I have today decided to disclose this to you.

- 1) How many incidents of drink spiking were recorded by your force from the years 2019-2024?***

Answer: 169

- 2) What was the location of the drink spiking incidents from the years 2019-2024?***

Answer: See below:

Town	Count of Crime Number
Alston	1
Ambleside	5
Barrow-in-Furness	29
Bowness-on-Windermere	1
Carlisle	47



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Carnforth	2
Cleator Moor	3
Cockermouth	4
Coniston	1
Egremont	1
Kendal	9
Keswick	1
Kirkby Lonsdale	2
Kirkby Stephen	1
London	1
Maryport	3
Millom	1
Penrith	11
St. Bees	1
Staveley	1
Ulverston	7
Whitehaven	19
Wigton	4
Windermere	3
Workington	9
Not Stated	2
Grand Total	169

3) How many cases of drink spiking resulted in a court case/prosecution from the years 2019-2024?

Answer: We are unable to provide data on prosecutions.

4) How many cases from the years 2019-2024 were successful? I.e., was the offender charged?

Answer: 1 person was charged in the time period.

The information provided has been extracted from the Constabulary's Crime Recording System. A filter has been used to ensure 'drink' offences are included in the information provided. A keyword search was also applied using the terms 'spiking', 'drink spike', 'spike', 'spiked', 'ghb', 'drugged', 'drink lac' and 'rohypnol'.

Please note: A keyword search may not accurately identify all information held by the Constabulary. If, for example, the keyword(s) were recorded in a different field to that which has been searched, or if another name or term was used to describe drink spiking, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been undertaken. For this reason, although provided in good faith, the information may not be wholly accurate.

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide 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. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.



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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.



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