

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



17th March 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 243/25 Dog attacks

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 24th of February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *The number of reported dog attacks (Home Office code 008/21 – owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England or Wales injuring any person or assistance dog) for the following dates:*

Feb 1 2020 – Jan 31 2021

Feb 1 2021 – Jan 31 2022

Feb 1 2022 – Jan 31 2023

Feb 1 2023 – Jan 31 2024

Feb 1 2024 – Jan 31 2025

2. *If there is time, and you are able, please provide me with the number of attacks involving XL Bully dogs for the last annual period (Feb 1 2024 to Jan 31 2025)*

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.

The information provided in response to your request has been extracted from the Constabulary's crime recording system. For question 2, a keyword search has been conducted using the term 'xl bully'.

Please note: a keyword search may not accurately identify all information held by the Constabulary. If, for example, the term 'xl bully' was recorded in a different field, or if another name or term was used to describe this, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been undertaken.

Question 1 –



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD

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Offence	01/02/20- 31/01/21	01/02/21- 31/01/22	01/02/22- 31/01/23	01/02/23- 31/01/24	01/02/24- 31/01/25	Grand Total
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in Any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	215	240	303	328	387	1473

Question 2 –

Attacks involving possible XL bully type dogs (including pocket bully description) between 01/02/24 - 31/01/25

Offence	01/02/24-31/01/25
Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in Any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog	8

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.

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

If you believe your request has not been properly handled, or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to request an internal review.

In the first instance, please email freedomofinformation@cumbria.police.uk quoting the FOI reference number and explain why you are dissatisfied. Your complaint will be considered and a response will be provided to you after your complaint has been investigated.

If you remain dissatisfied following conclusion of the internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner.

The address for the Information Commissioner can be found below:

The Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow



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Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Complaints to the Information Commissioner can also be made online:

[Make a complaint | ICO](#)

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



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