

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



30 April 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 399/25

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 2 April 2025.
I note you seek access to the following information:

I am requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding animal thefts in your jurisdiction.

I understand that the Pet Abduction Act 2024 came into force on 24 August 2024. For data from this date onwards, please include offences recorded under the specific categories of "dog abduction" and "cat abduction." For data prior to this date, please include all relevant offences where the stolen item was recorded as one of the listed animals, regardless of the overarching crime category (e.g., theft, burglary, robbery).

1. Number of reported thefts of animals (from the list below):

Please provide the number of reported thefts involving animals for each of the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Please break this down, where available, by:

- Postcode district for each year (e.g., LS1, M20)***
- Month (i.e., monthly totals) for each year***

2. Species-specific theft data (if held):

If possible, I would also like the number of thefts involving the following species, again split by calendar year (2019–2024):

Animals:

Bird, Cat, Chicken, Cow, Dog, Fish, Gecko, Gerbil, Goat, Guinea Pig, Hamster, Horse, Lamb, Lizard, Mouse, Pig, Pony, Rabbit, Sheep, Snake, Spider

3. Dog and cat breed-specific theft data (if held):

If possible, I would also like the number of thefts involving the following dog and cat breeds, again split by calendar year (2019–2024):

Dog breeds:



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Akita, Beagle, Bichon Frise, Border Collie, Chihuahua, Dachshund, Dalmatian, Doberman, French Bulldog, German Shepherd, Great Dane, Husky, Jack Russell, Labrador, Maltese, Mastiff, Pitbull, Pomeranian, Poodle, Pug, Retriever, Rottweiler, Samoyed, Shiba Inu, Shih Tzu, Spaniel, Springer, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Terrier, Whippet

Cat breeds:

Bengal, British Shorthair, Burmese, Long Haired, Maine Coon, Persian, Ragdoll, Russian Blue, Scottish Fold, Siamese, Sphynx, Domestic Shorthair (including Tuxedo, Ginger, Tabby, and Tortoiseshell)

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.

Question 1

Number of reported thefts of animals (from the list above) for calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Distinct Count of CrimeNumber	44	40	36	44	42	51	50	75	44	57	65	45	593

24/08/2024 - 31/12/2024 - Pet Abduction Categorisation	
HOC Sub Code of Pet Abduction Y/N	Yes
	No
Cat	1
Dog	5
Grand Total	6

***Breed not Specified**

***4 with breed not specified/1 x Cockerpoo**

(These 6 reports are included in the 2024 data table above)

Question 2

Species-specific theft data:

The number of thefts involving the below species, again split by calendar year (2019–2024) (Please note that 'Lamb' is included in 'Sheep' and that animals outside the below list are not included):



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Count of Crime Number

2019

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird										1		
Cat				1						1		
Chicken				1								
Cow					1	1						1
Dog	1		3		1	4	2	4	1	2	3	2
Fish	1				2			1				
Hamster												
horse							2				1	
pig												
pony						1						
Rabbit					1							
Sheep	8	4	3	6	1	5	3	6	1	5	5	2
Snake			1									
Grand Total	10	4	7	8	6	11	7	11	2	9	9	5

Count of Crime Number

2020

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird		1								1		
Cat					1		1				1	
Chicken				1	1		1			1	2	1
Cow		1			1	1						
Dog		2	2	1	3	2	7	7	2	4	2	3
Fish				4								
Hamster												
horse		1			1			1		1	4	
pig												
pony					1		1				1	
Rabbit		1										
Sheep	5			5	4	3	4	4	4	6	5	3
Snake											1	
Grand Total	5	6	2	11	12	6	14	12	6	13	16	7

Count of Crime Number

2021

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird						1				1		
Cat							2	1	1		1	



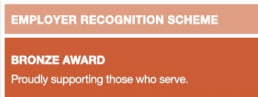
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Chicken	1					2	1	1				
Cow					2		1	1		2	1	
Dog	6	2	4	1	3	1	6	5	1	2	4	3
Fish							3					
Hamster												
horse		1				3	2	3				
pig												
pony												
Rabbit						4						
Sheep	4	1		1	2		3	11	3	3	3	9
Snake												
Grand Total	11	4	4	2	7	11	18	22	5	8	9	12

Count of Crime Number												
2022												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird				1					1			
Cat						1		1			1	
Chicken	1			2	1	2		1				1
Cow										1		
Dog	1	1	1		3		1	3	4	4	2	4
Fish				2	1					1		
Hamster								1				
horse				2					1			
pig											1	
pony						1						
Rabbit												
Sheep	3	2	2	3	2		1	3	4	2	5	1
Snake				1								
Grand Total	5	3	3	11	7	4	2	9	10	8	9	6

Count of Crime Number												
2023												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird												
Cat										1		
Chicken					1	1		2		1		
Cow			1	1		1						1
Dog	3	3	2	1	1	7	1		3	3	3	2
Fish												
Hamster												
horse			1					1				1
pig												
pony												
Rabbit												
Sheep	1	2	2	1	1	1		1	4	5	4	5



Snake													
Grand Total	4	5	6	3	3	10	1	4	7	10	7	9	

Count of Crime Number												
2024												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bird												
Cat		2		1			2	1	1	2		
Chicken			1			2						
Cow	1	1			1			1	2		1	1
Dog	1	3	6	1	3	2	1	7	4	1	5	1
Fish						1		1		1		
Hamster												
horse				1	1	2		2				
pig	1											
pony												
Rabbit												
Sheep	1	5	1	6	1	1	2	3	2	2	6	3
Snake												
Grand Total	4	11	8	9	6	8	5	15	9	6	12	5

Count of Crime Number	
Grand Total – 2019- 2024	
Bird	7
Cat	23
Chicken	29
Cow	26
Dog	184
Fish	18
Hamster	1
horse	32
pig	2
pony	5
Rabbit	6
Sheep	220
Snake	3
Grand Total	556

Count of Crime Number												
	2019											
PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1					2	1						
CA10	1	1				1						



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CA11	1	1						1				
CA12										1		
CA13								1			1	
CA14	1		2					2			1	
CA15										1		
CA16	1				1	2						
CA17	1		1	1		2		1				1
CA19											2	
CA2				1				1				
CA20								1				
CA21									1			
CA22												1
CA23												
CA25												
CA26												
CA28					1							
CA3								1				
CA4			1					1		1		
CA5											1	1
CA6				1				1				
CA7						2		3		3	1	
CA8										1	1	
CA9												
LA10								1				
LA11										1		
LA12	1										1	
LA13												
LA14						2					1	
LA15												
LA17					1							
LA18												
LA20				1								
LA22										1		
LA23	1									1		
LA6	1							1				
LA7												
LA8	1		1			1	2					
LA9												
No Postcode Specified	1	2	2	4	1					1		2
PR2												
SR4												
Grand Total	10	4	7	8	6	11	7	11	2	9	9	5

Count of Crime Number												
	2020											



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PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1					1			1				
CA10	1	1			1		1	2	2	2	1	
CA11				2	1	1			1	2		
CA12				1				1				
CA13				1				1				
CA14			1		1			1				1
CA15		1				1		1				
CA16					1		1			1	3	
CA17	1						1					2
CA19												
CA2					1	1	1		1			
CA20										1		
CA21												
CA22							1					
CA23						1						
CA25							1		1			
CA26												
CA28				1			2	1			1	
CA3												1
CA4							1					
CA5											1	
CA6								1		1		
CA7	1						4	1		1		
CA8	1	1								1		
CA9		1										
LA10	1				1					1	2	
LA11						1				1		
LA12				1	1	1	1					
LA13												
LA14		1			3			1		1	4	1
LA15		1									1	1
LA17												
LA18												
LA20									1			
LA22					1			1				
LA23										1	1	
LA6				1								
LA7												
LA8				2							1	
LA9			1								1	
No Postcode Specified				2								1
PR2												
SR4												
Grand Total	5	6	2	11	12	6	14	12	6	13	16	7



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Count of Crime Number												
	2021											
PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1	1		1				1				1	2
CA10	3							2	1	1		1
CA11								1		1		2
CA12								1	1			2
CA13							1	1	1			
CA14				1		1		3				
CA15				1			2	1				
CA16								2		1		
CA17	6					1					2	
CA19												
CA2							2	2	1			1
CA20												
CA21												
CA22								1		1		
CA23								1				
CA25												
CA26												
CA28												
CA3												
CA4							1					
CA5												
CA6						1		1			1	
CA7						3	1	1	1	1		
CA8						3	1				1	
CA9							1					
LA10		1										
LA11					2		1					
LA12					1			1		1		
LA13						1	1					
LA14		1	2		1	1	3	1				
LA15												
LA17												
LA18												
LA20							1					
LA22												
LA23		1										
LA6					1			1				
LA7										1		
LA8										1	3	
LA9	1											



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No Postcode Specified		1	1		2		1	2			1	4
PR2												
SR4							1					
Grand Total	11	4	4	2	7	11	18	22	5	8	9	12

Count of Crime Number												
	2022											
PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1	1			5						2		
CA10		1						1	1	1		
CA11	1			1			1	1				
CA12												
CA13									1	1	1	1
CA14	1			1						1		1
CA15					1			1				
CA16									1	1		
CA17				1					1		1	
CA19												
CA2		1				1		1			1	1
CA20												
CA21												
CA22					1			1		1		
CA23												1
CA25												
CA26									1			
CA28					1			1				
CA3												
CA4												
CA5												
CA6											1	
CA7									2		1	
CA8												
CA9								2				
LA10		1				1					1	
LA11											1	
LA12										1		
LA13												
LA14			1	1	1			1	1		2	1
LA15									1			
LA17												
LA18	1											
LA20												
LA22												
LA23												



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LA6												
LA7												
LA8	1						1					
LA9			1		1				1			
No Postcode Specified			1	2	2	2						1
PR2												
SR4												
Grand Total	5	3	3	11	7	4	2	9	10	8	9	6

Count of Crime Number												
	2023											
PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1				1					2		1	
CA10		1			1				1			
CA11										1		1
CA12								1				
CA13												
CA14	1					1		1		2		1
CA15												
CA16			2									
CA17						1					1	1
CA19									1			
CA2	2	1	1			2	1					
CA20												
CA21												
CA22												
CA23												
CA25												
CA26												
CA28									1	1	1	
CA3					1					1		
CA4	1		1								1	
CA5												
CA6		1										1
CA7		1	1	1		2					2	
CA8										1		
CA9										2		2
LA10								1			1	
LA11												1
LA12		1	1									1
LA13						1			1			
LA14						2						
LA15												
LA17												



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LA18												
LA20												
LA22												
LA23						1						
LA6					1							
LA7												
LA8									1			
LA9												
No Postcode Specified				1				1	1	1		1
PR2												
SR4												
Grand Total	4	5	6	3	3	10	1	4	7	10	7	9

Count of Crime Number												
	2024											
PostCode (Redacted)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CA1		1				1			2		1	
CA10	2	3		1		2			1	1	1	
CA11	1		1					5			1	
CA12												
CA13												
CA14			1	2	2			2				
CA15		1	1								1	
CA16												
CA17		1										1
CA19												
CA2					2				1		1	
CA20												
CA21												
CA22				1								
CA23												1
CA25											1	
CA26												
CA28			1			3				1	1	1
CA3								1				
CA4			1					2			1	
CA5												
CA6		2		1			1					
CA7		1					1					
CA8								1		1		
CA9												
LA10											1	1
LA11							1				1	
LA12		2		2	1			1				



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LA13												
LA14	1		1				1					
LA15												
LA17												
LA18					1				1			
LA20							1	1				
LA22												
LA23										1		1
LA6											1	
LA7												
LA8				1					2	2		
LA9			2					1	1		1	
No Postcode Specified				1		2		1				
PR2									1			
SR4												
Grand Total	4	11	8	9	6	8	5	15	9	6	12	5

Count of Crime Number	
	Grand Total
PostCode (Redacted)	
CA1	28
CA10	40
CA11	28
CA12	8
CA13	11
CA14	32
CA15	13
CA16	17
CA17	28
CA19	3
CA2	28
CA20	2
CA21	1
CA22	8
CA23	4
CA25	3
CA26	1
CA28	18
CA3	5
CA4	12
CA5	3
CA6	14
CA7	35
CA8	13



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CA9	8
LA10	14
LA11	10
LA12	19
LA13	4
LA14	36
LA15	4
LA17	1
LA18	3
LA20	5
LA22	3
LA23	8
LA6	7
LA7	1
LA8	20
LA9	11
No Postcode Specified	45
PR2	1
SR4	1
Grand Total	556

Question 3

Dog and Cat breed – specific theft data -

The number of thefts involving the following dog and cat breeds, again split by calendar year (2019–2024):

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
Alapaha Bulldog			1				1
American Bulldog					2		2
Beagle	1						1
Bichon Frise			1				1
Border Collie	3	2	3		2		10
Border Terrier	1						1
Boxer		1					1
British Bulldog				1	2		3
Bull Mastiff		1	1				2
Bull Terrier		1					1
Cavapoo		1					1
Chihuahua		1	3				4
Chinese crest			1				1
Chow-Chow					1		1
Cockapoo					2	1	3
Cocker Spaniel	2		2	3	1	1	9
Cross - Breed	3	2	2	3	2	2	14



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Dachshund		1		1	2		4
Doberman Pincher				2			2
English bulldog			1				1
Foxhound			1				1
French Bulldog	3	1	2	7		2	15
German Shepherd			1	1		1	3
Golden Retriever					1		1
Husky						2	2
Jack Russell	1	2	2			2	7
Labradoodle		1					1
Labrador	1	1				1	3
Lurcher		2	1			1	4
Maine Coon						2	2
Not Specified		9	10	3	7	12	41
Patterdale Terrier					1		1
Retriever			1				1
Rottweiler		1				3	4
Sheepdog	1	1					2
Shih Tzu	1				1		2
Spaniel		1	1			1	3
Springer Spaniel		1	2	2			5
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	1	1		2	4	3	11
Tabby						1	1
Terrier	1	1	1			1	4
Tortoise Shell	1						1
West Highland Terrier	1						1
Whippet	1	3					4
XL Bully			1			1	2
Yorkshire Terrier	1						1
Grand Total	23	35	38	25	28	37	186

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
Cross - Breed	1						1
Maine Coon						2	2
Not Specified		3	5	3	1	6	18
Tabby						1	1
Tortoise Shell	1						1
Grand Total	2	3	5	3	1	9	23

Please note that for all the above data is based on the number of crime reports and NOT the number of animals alleged to have been stolen on that crime, which can be multiples.



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Breeds and animal types are free-text sections of the Crime System, this data is not always recorded in the exact manner by Officers so there is an element of unknown/not recorded data especially with regards to specific types of animal and breed detail.

Where a cross of breeds is indicated we have shown this as cross-breed. Breed data is as specified, given by victims.

A keyword search using the terms 'property' and 'animal' was used.

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 any of the above animals, 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.

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.

