

Chief Constable

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



21 May 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 544/25

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 19 May 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 in Cumbria during 2020?

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 in Cumbria during 2021?

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 in Cumbria during 2022?

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 in Cumbria during 2023?

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 in Cumbria during 2024?

How many drivers were given fines and penalty points for middle lane hogging on the m6 so far in Cumbria during 2025?

With regards to your above request relating to driving penalties issued by Cumbria Constabulary for 'middle-lane hogging on the M6', I can advise you of the following:

Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you have requested in an easily retrievable format. 'middle lane hogging' is not recorded as a specific offence and any driving penalties issues for this offence are recorded under driving without due care and attention. To locate and extract the information in relation to 'middle lane hogging' this would mean manually reviewing all reports for driving without due care and attention for each year requested, in which 384 tickets were issued in just one of the years which have been requested.

The time required to review each report and relevant associated records 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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