

Chief Constable
T/Chief Constable Darren Martland
Police Headquarters
Carleton Hall Penrith,
Cumbria
CA10 2AU



26 June 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 582/25

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 29 May 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. From 2019 to the most recent data available, how many crimes were logged by your police force where a bow or crossbow was recorded as being an element in the offence? Please provide a yearly breakdown in a table (Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the phrases “bow”, “bow and arrow”, “crossbow”, “cross bow” and “cross-bow”.***
- 2. From 2019 to the most recent data available, how many crimes were logged by your police force where an air rifle, airsoft gun or bb gun was recorded as being an element in the offence? Please provide a yearly breakdown in a table (Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the phrases “BB Gun”, “BB Pistol”, “BB Rifle”, “Airsoft gun”, “Airsoft pistol”, “air rifle”, “air pistol”, “air gun”, “pellet rifle”, “pellet pistol” and “pellet gun”.***
- 3. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 1 that are 'linked' to bows or crossbows by its mention in the MO for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please provide this broken down by Home Office offence group and subgroup.***
- 4. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 2 that are 'linked' to air rifles, airsoft guns or bb guns by their mention in the MO for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please provide this broken down by Home Office offence group and subgroup.***

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 and incident recording systems. The date range searched was from 01/01/2019 to 30/04/2025 inclusive.

Questions 1 & 3



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Keywords used: bow and arrow, crossbow, cross bow and cross-bow.

Offence Class	Offence Category Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Arson and Criminal Damage	Criminal Damage to a Building - Residential							1	1
Burglary	Aggravated burglary in a dwelling			1					1
	Burglary - Business & Community				1				1
	Burglary Residential		1						1
Possession of Weapons	Possession of other weapons		1		1	2			4
Public Order Offences	Public fear alarm or distress		1	1	2		1		5
Violence Against the Person	Assault with injury					1			1
	Assault without injury				1				1
	Cruelty to Children/Young Persons							2	2
	Harassment	2						1	3
	Malicious Communications		1	1	2	1			5
	Stalking						1		1
Grand Total		2	4	3	7	4	2	4	26

Questions 2 & 4

Keywords used: BB Gun, BB Pistol, BB Rifle, Airsoft gun, Airsoft pistol, air rifle, air pistol, air gun, pellet rifle, pellet pistol and pellet gun.

Offence Class	Offence Category Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Arson and Criminal Damage	Criminal damage to a building - Business and Community	3	2	1	8	4	3	1	22
	Criminal Damage to a Building - Residential	16	12	5	14	26	9	1	83
	Criminal damage to a vehicle	5	4		4	7	3	1	24
	Other criminal damage	4	2	6	2	1	2		17
Burglary	Attempted Burglary - Business and Community		1						1
	Burglary - Business and Community			1					1
	Burglary Residential	2	3	1	4	1			11



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

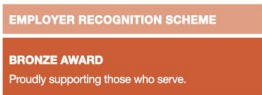
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	Residential Burglary of a Home						1		1
	Residential Burglary of Unconnected Building					1			1
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	Other notifiable offences				4	2	1		7
	Threat or possession with intent to commit criminal damage		1						1
Possession of Weapons	Other Firearm Knives and Offensive Weapon Offences						1		1
	Possession of firearms offences	5	5	4	6	13	3	1	37
	Possession of firearms with intent		4				3		7
	Possession of other weapons				3			1	4
Public Order Offences	Public fear alarm or distress	2	3	2		1	3		11
Sexual Offences	Rape of a female aged 16 and over			1					1
Theft	Other theft	2							2
	Shoplifting			1					1
	Theft in a dwelling other than from an automatic machine or meter			1					1
Violence Against the Person	Assault with injury	7	4	5	11	5	10		42
	Assault with intent to cause serious harm	1							1
	Assault without injury	10	4	5	11	3	13	3	49
	Cruelty to Children/Young Persons	1							1
	Harassment	3		2	2	3			10
	Kidnapping and False Imprisonment					2			2
	Malicious Communications	1		1	2	1			5
	Racially or religiously aggravated assault without injury			1					1
Grand Total		62	45	37	71	70	52	8	345

Please note that the above data include instances where the requested keyword weapon was mentioned but not necessarily seen or used.



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 the keywords used above, 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.



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