

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



3rd October 2024

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 821/24 Knife possession offences with Female offender.

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on 10th September 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

- *In the financial years, 2021/22, 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25 (Up to 10.09.24), how many instances of knife possession offences by women has been recorded by your force recorded? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.*
- *For the same financial years, how many of these women found to have committed a knife possession offence were under the age of 18? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.*
- *Please detail the youngest to have committed a knife possession offence in each financial year.*

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. The offence subclass codes '008/26' and '008/27' have been used for this search. As your request is specific to possession offences other knife related offences, for example 'threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article in a public place' have been excluded. This has been done as with this offence the offender/suspect may or may not actually have a knife in their possession.

Please note that as you have requested the number of women the data relates to the number of distinct persons rather than the volume of crime. It should also be noted that although you have requested data up to 10.09.24, we have provided the data up to the end of the most recent full month (31.08.24) in line with standard practice.

Q1. Please see table below for a breakdown of distinct women who have been listed as the offender (not suspect) by financial years:

Financial Year	Count of persons
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FY 2021/22	7
FY 2022/23	6
FY 2023/24	13
FYTD 2024/25	6
Total	32

Q2. Please see table below for a breakdown of the data where the offender was under the age of 18.

Financial Year	Count of persons
FY 2021/22	2
FY 2022/23	1
FY 2023/24	1
FYTD 2024/25	2
Total	6

Q3. Please see table below for a breakdown of the data to show the youngest offender by financial year.

Financial Year	Youngest age in Years
FY 2021/22	14
FY 2022/23	14
FY 2023/24	15
FYTD 2024/25	11

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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