

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



9th October 2024

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 825/24 DOG SEIZURES

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 11th September 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am emailing to make a Freedom of Information request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please provide yearly figures for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 along with monthly figures for 2024 to 31st August for each of the following questions:

- 1. The number of dogs seized under s.1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act*
- 2. The number of dogs destroyed after seizure under s.1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act*
- 3. The number of dogs seized under s.3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act*
- 4. The number of dogs destroyed after seizure under s.3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act*
- 5. The number of people charged each year under the offence **Possession of a Dangerous Dog**, Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, s.1*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm Cumbria Constabulary does information relevant to your request and I have today decided to disclose this to you.

The information for questions 1 – 4 has been provided by the Constabulary's Dogs Section and is based on records held by that Team. Information for question 5 has been extracted from records held on the Constabulary's Cased and Custody system and is based on the date a decision to charge a person was taken.

The tables on the next page contain the requested information.



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Year	No. of dogs seized under S1 DDA	No. of dogs destroyed after seizure under S1 DDA	No. of Dogs Seized under S3 DDA	No. of dogs destroyed after seizure under S3 DDA	No. or Persons charged for Possession of a Dangerous Dog, S1 DDA (Offence Classification 111/17)
2019	3	1	15	6	0
2020	0	0	11	5	0
2021	0	0	7	4	0
2022	6	3	20	8	0
2023	2	0	36	15	0
*2024	23	7	13	3	11
Total	34	11	102	41	11

The below table provides a monthly breakdown of the numbers of dogs seized and persons charged, for 2024 up to 31st August.

Month	No. of dogs seized under S1 DDA	No. of Dogs Seized under S3 DDA	No. or Persons charged for Possession of a Dangerous Dog, S1 DDA (Offence Classification 111/17)
January	0	1	0
February	12	3	0
March	2	2	1
April	0	1	0
May	1	4	7
June	3	1	1
July	1	0	0
August	4	1	2
Total	23	13	11

With regards to dogs which are destroyed following seizures under Section 1, or Section 3, of the Dangerous Dogs Act, this typically only occurs where a destruction order is made by a Court following a prosecution, or in cases where a dog is disclaimed by its owner. In cases



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where an owner has disclaimed a dog, due to the nature of incidents which result in the seizure, rehoming a dog may not be a viable option, resulting in the dog being put to sleep.

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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