

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



8th October 2024

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 837/24 Spiking via injection

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on 18th September 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. The total number of reports made to Cumbria Police related to spiking via injection from September 2021 to the present day.
2. A breakdown of these reports by year
3. The number of investigations initiated as a result of these reports.
4. The number of individuals charged with spiking via injection based on these reports.
5. The number of convictions resulting from these reports of spiking via injection.

Your request for information has been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does hold the information you request, and I have today decided to disclose this to you.

To provide information relevant to your request, searches were undertaken on the Constabulary's Crime recording database for the offence codes 005/10, 008/02, 005/24, 088/05, 005/05 and crimes where the keyword "spiked", or "spiking" was used. The results were then filtered for any records where "needle", "syringe" or "inject" was used in the free text notes.

Answers

Question 1 Answer = 39 crimes related to spiking via injection were reported to Cumbria Police

Question 2 Answer = Below table refers to a breakdown of these reports by year

Year	No of records
2021	4
2022	16
2023	12
2024	7

Question 3 Answer = All 39 crimes were investigated



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Question 4 Answer = No individuals were charged.

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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