

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



21st March 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 268/25 – Stolen Sheep

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 28th February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

Please provide me with the number of sheep reported stolen to the force, broken down into the following years: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

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

In order to provide information, searches were undertaken on the Constabulary's Crime recording system for theft offences, using the 'animal farming' offence category filter and keyword 'sheep' and 'lamb' to ascertain reports specified in your request.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Jan	5	3	3	1	1	13
Feb		2	2	2	5	11
Mar			2	2	1	5
Apr	5	1	3	1	6	16
May	5	2	2	1	1	11
Jun	3			1	1	5
Jul	4	3	2		2	11
Aug	4	10	3	1	3	21
Sep	3	3	4	4	2	16
Oct	7	3	2	4	1	17
Nov	5	3	5	4	5	22
Dec	3	6	1	5	3	18
Total	44	36	29	26	31	166

Please note: 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 sheep thefts, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been



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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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