

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



30th December 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1562/25 Malicious Communications

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 1st December 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

From all arrests in the calendar year 2024 recorded by Cumbria Constabulary, where either of the following offences is recorded on the custody record (whether as the main or a secondary offence):

- Section 127(1) Communications Act 2003
- Section 1 Malicious Communications Act 1988

please select up to 40 arrests using a neutral method (for example, a simple random selection or, if that is not practicable, the first 40 eligible arrests by date in 2024).

For each arrest in that sample, please provide:

1. An anonymised reference (e.g. A1, A2, A3 etc.)
2. The date of the arrest (month and year only, e.g. May 2024)
3. Which of the above offences is recorded (s.127(1) Communications Act 2003, s.1 Malicious Communications Act 1988, or both)
4. The existing short "offence summary" / "crime summary" / "custody record description" / "modus operandi (MO)" text (or equivalent field) that describes the communication or conduct

I am not seeking any direct identifiers. In particular, I do not require:

- Names of suspects, victims or witnesses
- Exact addresses or postcodes
- Dates of birth
- Exact times of day

I am content for you to redact or generalise any information you consider necessary to prevent individuals from being identifiable (e.g. replacing names with "[male]", "[female]" etc.). If, after attempted redaction, you consider that a particular record still cannot be anonymised adequately, I am content for you to simply omit that record from the sample and instead include another eligible arrest.

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.



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The information provided has been extracted from Cumbria Constabulary's crime recording system. The first 40 results for any crimes that had Section 127(1) Communications Act 2003 or Section 1 Malicious Communications Act 1988 as a recorded offence has been used as we cannot retrieve a randomised sample.

Please note: the information provided has been redacted to remove any identifiable information.

A1
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has sent victim messages that were grossly offensive & threatening
A2
Jan - 2024
section 127(1)(b) and (3) of the Communications Act 2003.
Suspect has had access to a tyre valve key and has let the tyres down on the victim's car. Suspect has rung the victim stating they would come round to their home address smash windows and hit them with a hammer
A3
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has made threats towards various agencies and companies stating they were going shoot and bomb a number of areas and people in those areas. Contact was made via email and telephone call
A4
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has sent an email to individual, in the content of this email, the suspect uses racist slur towards them. On separate occasion sus has phoned individual and screamed that they are going to get a group to throw acid at them
A5
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has turned up at Victims address sending threatening messages to damage the house
A6
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Wanted for contacting victim over last two years multiple methods - all unwanted contact, last contact made threats causing distress and threatened to disclose sexual images of victim causing h/a/d.
A7
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Allegation that between multiple months - DP has engaged in a course of conduct that amounts to harassment, by banging on the front door and shouting things at the victim. This has escalated by sending messages, which have been in a threatening manner.
A8



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Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
It is alleged that the suspect grabbed the victim by the hair, thrown them to the floor, smacked them to the back of the head causing no injury.
A9
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Call received from victim that the DP has sent messages threatening to slit their throats and kill them
A10
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP has phoned the MH team saying they will burn down the block of flats where they live causing them to be alarmed by this
A11
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP has contacted 999 and has threatened to stab neighbour.
A12
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP has threatened to throw petrol bombs at victim's house
A13
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
The suspect has made numerous threatening phone calls to the victim making threats to kill them.
A14
Jan - 2024
section 127(1)(b) and (3) of the Communications Act 2003.
Whilst exchanging messages DP has threatened to stab victim
A15
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Allegation that suspect has called victim demanding the dog to be picked up, as they would kill themselves.
A16
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has posted multiple comments on social media referring to the other parties as persons who are protecting a sex offender. The information's contact of the other parties names and address which could be seen on the public post. This has caused the other parties alarm & anxiety
A17
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Thrown a TV remote at the TV, causing damage. Rang from a private number, said they was going to kill victim and damage the flat.



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A18
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Victim has disclosed that the suspect controls finances not allowing freedom of access to money, regarding the mal comms the victim states the dp has phoned and shouted making threats to assault them
A19
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Victim received 2 phone calls. Voice is heard saying "This is [name], I am making you aware that [name] has been arrested for sexual harassment." On separate occasion a further call was made, which stated the "[name] has been involved in an accident."
A20
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has been calling the crisis team repeatedly today and when they didn't get the responses that they wanted they have become verbally aggressive and calling the practitioner names
A21
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP has sent a number of messages making threats to harm another person, and found in possession of a pair of scissors
A22
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP is alleged to have sent threatening messages to the victim following a robbery. Today, having been made aware that others have been arrested for said robbery, the DP has sent messages to the victim calling them a grass.
A23
Jan - 2024
section 127(1)(a) and (3) of the Communications Act 2003.
DP has sent grossly offensive messages to the victim
A24
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Over the last couple of days, close friend of DP has received a bag of items belonging to victim in order to facilitate them getting to the DP. Yesterday several messages have been received by the victim. These messages contain threats whereby the DP has stated that they will attend the address and made threats that they will be violent in order to obtain property
A25
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
A report that DP has messaged the victim stating they are going to stab them and another individual
A26
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.



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During a 999 call it was heard that suspect was banging on the victim's door and threatening to damage the victims windows

A27

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

Suspect has set fire to belongings of victim and has sent multiple texts to IP which were malicious

A28

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

DP has made numerous phone calls threatening to stab another- crisis team and police

A29

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

DP has made a phone call to today to the Department for Works and Pensions as they were unhappy with being refused an application for Universal Credit. They have driven themselves from outside of the force area and has made threats that they would attend a supermarket and that they would harm people. DP was arrested

A30

Jan - 2024

section 127(1)(a) and (3) of the Communications Act 2003.

W/ fear of violence. - Victim has received a high volume of messages from DP, and these messages contain threats that they will smash the windows of house, go through the doors. DP has also visited the house posting items through the letter box. Over a period of 2 months.

A31

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

DP has phoned threatening to blow up police station

A32

Jan - 2024

section 127(1)(b) and (3) of the Communications Act 2003.

It is alleged that the DP has bitten and punched the victim to the face and hand causing injury, it is alleged that the DP has contacted another victim by text message and later had physical contact when the assault occurred at address, DP has bail conditions not to contact the victim

A33

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

Suspect through this evening on phone 111 service and has made several threats that they would kill someone and then made threats to kill a police officer

A34

Jan - 2024

section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

DP is alleged to have sent unwanted messages making threats to harm the victim and phone calls stating the same.

DP is alleged to have been seen near victim's address

A35

Jan - 2024



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LEADER



section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has contacted victim stating "I SHOULD HAVE STABBED YOU" also sending numerous messages over the last year in breach of order
A36
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Mal comms - sent message to victim stating they would kick and hit them Harassment - made contact with victim after they told them to leave them alone, made fake social media account to message them and sent threatening emails
A37
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(a) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Suspect has sent threatening messages to newspaper causing anxiety and stress
A38
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Alleged that the victim has been out walking, the DP has approached them and engaged in conversation, and then has stated "If I have a grand, I will get two smack heads to set fire to your house" "If I see you again I will cave in your face". Later that evening has sent messages of a similar nature reiterating the threats.
A39
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
Tonight received a call from victim reporting DP has been living with them recently. Tonight, whilst out DP has made a threat towards the victim and family that they were going to cut their heads off. Later in the evening it is alleged to have made calls and messages stating they were going to the house to kill victim. Located by officers walking in the direction of the victim's address.
A40
Jan - 2024
section 1(1)(b) and (4) of the Malicious Communications Act 1988.
DP is alleged to have made calls and sent messages to the victim of a threatening nature
Grand Total: 40

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

If you believe your request has not been properly handled, or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to request an internal review.



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In the first instance, please email freedomofinformation@cumbria.police.uk quoting the FOI reference number and explain why you are dissatisfied. Your complaint will be considered, and a response will be provided to you after your complaint has been investigated.

If you remain dissatisfied following conclusion of the internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner.

The address for the Information Commissioner can be found below:

The Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Complaints to the Information Commissioner can also be made online:

[Make a complaint | ICO](#)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Cumbria Constabulary.

