

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



24th January 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 24/25 DVDS requests 2014-2024

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 7th of January 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I would like to file an FOI request for the following data, pertaining to the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law), for each annual period from 2014 - 2024 inclusive.*

Within each period that follows, please could you provide:

*How many DVDS requests were received within each period?
How many of those requests within each period were fulfilled?
How many of those requests within each period were rejected?
And, if retrievable, reason(s) for rejection?*

The periods in question are from 01 January to 31 December (inclusive) within each year 2014 - 2024 (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024).

For example, in 2014, between 01 Jan - 31 Dec inclusive, X DVDS requests were received, X were fulfilled, X were rejected. Of those rejected, X number were rejected owing to X reason, and X were rejected owed to X reason.

**Or as the scheme was implemented – please specific.*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you have requested in an easily retrievable format. For the year 2014, the Constabulary does not hold the information requested in an easily extractable format; to understand the outcomes of the requests received in this year it would require a manual review of all requests received. In addition to this, the method of recording and monitoring DVDS requests changed in 2023 allowing the data to be extracted with more accuracy. Prior to 2023 there are some requests where the outcome was not recorded within the extractable data, therefore, to understand the outcome of these requests a manual review of these requests would be required to establish the outcome, of which there are 125 records.

I have estimated that the time required to complete a manual review to locate and extract all information relevant to your request would significantly exceed the “appropriate limit”, as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The current limit for police forces is set at £450, which equates to 18 hours of work.



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Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. In view of this, and in accordance with Section 17(5) of the Act, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice for your request, by virtue of Section 12(1).

However, as a gesture of goodwill and in keeping with the duty to provide advice and assistance under Section 16 of the Act, I can provide you with some information which has been retrieved within the 18hour limit. This information is provided below.

Please note that the requests in the 'unknown' category have been categorised this way because of the issues described above.

Outcome	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Not yet completed										15	15
Unknown	15	21	33	13	5	1	12	13	12		125
Dealt with using an alternative method			1	2	1	3	7	56	80	37	187
Disclosure Served	20	105	186	188	172	301	483	335	375	487	2652
Individual refusing or not engaging or being uncontactable so not progressed	3	4	6	22	37	50	63	60	43	94	382
Not in relationship so not progressed		10	14	36	33	54	42	57	60	74	380
Not progressed/resulted in no disclosure for any (including unknown) reason	12	18	13	32	62	100	89	79	71	149	625
Grand Total	50	158	253	293	310	509	696	600	641	856	4366

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.

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.



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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.



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