

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



9th January 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1125/24 – Dog Thefts

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 16th December 2024. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. What were the total number of dog theft crimes in 2023 (monthly breakdown if possible)?*
- 2. What was the outcome (charge/summons, community resolution, active investigation, evidential difficulties, no suspect identified) for each dog theft crime in 2023?*
- 3. How many dogs were listed with each dog theft crime in 2023?*
- 4. If this question doesn't take us beyond the time required for free FOI feedback, can details about stolen dog breed, gender, age, and location of theft (walk, home, garden, outside shop, from car etc) also be provided for 2023 please?*
- 5. If this question doesn't take us beyond the time required for free FOI feedback, can postcode of recorded crime and CRN be included?*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm Cumbria Constabulary does hold some information relevant to your 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 theft offences using the domestic animal filter. Results were then manually reviewed to establish the offences where the stolen property was as a dog.



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Question 1 – What were the total number of dog theft crimes in 2023 (monthly breakdown if possible)?

Answer

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Distinct Count of Crime Number	3	3	2	1	1	6	1	2	3	3	2	27

Question 2 – What was the outcome (charge/summons, community resolution, active investigation, evidential difficulties, no suspect identified) for each dog theft crime in 2023?

Answer

Distinct Count of Crime Number	
	Total
Home Office Outcome	
Charge/summons	3
Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender.	1
Named suspect – further investigation not in public interest	1
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action	10
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action	5
No Suspect Identified – DF not applicable	4
Other Agency Delegations	1
Suspect Identified – Discretionary Framework	2
Total	27

Question 3 - How many dogs were listed with each dog theft crime in 2023?



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Answer

In total there were 30 dogs stolen over the 27 crimes.

3 crimes with 2 dogs stolen

24 crimes with 1 dog stolen

Question 4 – If this question doesn't take us beyond the time required for free FOI feedback, can details about stolen dog breed, gender, age, and location of theft (walk, home, garden, outside shop, from car etc) also be provided for 2023 please?

Answer

Count of Crime Number		
Dog Breed	Age (Puppy or Adult) (If Specified)	Total
American Bulldog	Not Specified	1
American Bulldog	Puppy	1
Border Collie	Adult	1
Border Collie	Puppy	1
British Bulldog	Adult	1
British Bulldog	Not Specified	1
Chow Chow	Not Specified	1
Cockapoo	Adult	1
Cockapoo	Puppy	1
Cocker Spaniel	Not Specified	1
Crossbreed	Adult	2
French Bulldog	Adult	1
Golden Retriever	Adult	1
Labrador X	Not Specified	1
Miniature Dachshund	Not Specified	2
Not Specified	Adult	2
Not Specified	Not Specified	4
Patterdale Terrier	Adult	1
Pitbull/Mastiff	Puppy	1
Shih Tzu	Not Specified	1
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Adult	1
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Not Specified	3
Total		30



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7 Dogs were female, 5 Dogs were male and 18 has no specified gender recorded.

We do not systematically record any further level of detail with regards to the type of location where the animal was stolen from, this would be recorded as an address only.

Question 5 - If this question doesn't take us beyond the time required for free FOI feedback, can postcode of recorded crime and CRN be included?

Postcode Data provided.

Distinct Count of Crime Number	
Row Labels	Total
CA1	3
CA14	3
CA16	1
CA2	7
CA28	2
CA3	2
CA6	2
CA7	1
CA8	1
CA9	1
LA12	1
LA13	1
LA14	2
Total	27

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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