

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



9th July 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 624/25 Squatting Reports

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 11th June 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

For 2024:

1. *How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*
 - a. *In residential properties/ land*
 - b. *In commercial properties/ land*

For 2023:

1. *How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*
 - a. *In residential properties/ land*
 - b. *In commercial properties/ land*

For 2022:

1. *How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*
 - a. *In residential properties/ land*
 - b. *In commercial properties/ land*

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.

Please note: The information provided was extracted from Cumbria Constabulary's incident recording system. A keyword search of 'Squat' was used to find the data. A keyword search may not accurately identify all information held by the Constabulary. If, for example, the words were recorded in a different field, or if another name or term was used to describe the site, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been undertaken.

This information is only related to reports of squatting, it excludes reports that may mention "squatter" in passing or where it was not relevant to the report. The commercial/residential breakdown was based off a manual search of the notes/address and is not a required field, therefore it was down to the analyst's discretion. Squatting is typically a council/civil matter and is not usually reported to the police or a police matter. This means that the results may not be accurate or a true representation of the figures.



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The number of instances of squatting reported to the police force.

Year	Commercial	Residential
2022	5	6
2023	3	7
2024	3	6

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.

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.



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