

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



28th July 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 681/25 Police Pursuit Crashes

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 30th June 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please provide the data broken down by year from 1 January 2020 to the most recent data available.

I would like to know the following:

- 1. How many members of the public crashed their car following a police pursuit conducted by Cumbria Constabulary.*
- 2. How many members of the public have died following a police pursuit conducted by Cumbria Constabulary.*
- 3. How many members of the public died as a result of a collision or incident involving a person being pursued by the police, even if the deceased was not directly involved in the pursuit (e.g., bystanders or other road users).*

I have estimated the time required to extract the relevant information required will exceed the “appropriate limit” as this would require a manual review of all relevant entries.

To collate this information, a member of staff would need to review every pursuit recording form we have, dating back to 2020 and the quarterly constabulary pursuit submissions dating back to 2022. There is circa 599 pursuit recording forms, please note that we ask on the form “Damage to subject vehicle?”, with a yes or no tick box. Therefore, upon review, it may or may not detail how any damage occurred. This would require a manual review of each case to see if a police pursuit was involved in the incident.

The “appropriate limit” is set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 and the current limit for police forces is set at £450, which equates to 18 hours of work.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act does not oblige a public authority to comply



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with a request for information, if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request will 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.

In accordance with my duty under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000 (Duty to provide advice and assistance), I have tried to think of a way to recommend that your request may be refined to bring it under the limit explained above. At this time, unfortunately, I have no suggestions, due to the way that the information requested is recorded.

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.

