

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



30 July 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 699/25 – MIGRANT DV VICTIMS

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 10 July 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am seeking data about domestic violence allegations involving migrant spouses and their British or settled partners.

Specifically, I would like to know:

- 1. Between 2015 and 2025, (or, if data over that period is not available, then for the last 5 years only) how many British citizens or individuals with settled status (Indefinite Leave to Remain) were:***
 - * Arrested following an allegation of domestic violence,***
 - * Made by their spouse or partner who had recently entered the UK on a spouse visa or family visa (i.e. someone they had sponsored to come to the UK)?***
- 2. Of those arrests, how many cases were:***
 - * Closed with "No Further Action" (NFA) by police or the Crown Prosecution Service?***
- 3. Does your force record or flag cases where:***
 - * The complainant (accuser) was on a spouse or family visa, and***
 - * Later applied to remain in the UK under the Domestic Violence Concession (DV route)?***

Your request for information has been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does not hold all the information you seek in an easily retrievable format.

Due to the way in which our data is recorded, 'citizenship' is not specifically recorded within the information therefore I have estimated the time required to extract the relevant information for those years will exceed the "appropriate limit" as this would require a manual review of all relevant entries. In the last 5 years there were over 8,300 arrests. We would need to conduct a manual search of all our custody and associated records where individuals were arrested with a DA flag upon the arrest.

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.

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 18-hour limit.

I can advise you that in the last 5 years 8360 individuals were arrested with a DA flag on the arrest, 7764 had UK nationality recorded and 596 had other nationality recorded, as previously stated we cannot confirm their citizenship status. Of those arrested, 6582 had a disposal of NFA and 479 of those had a foreign nationality.

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.

