

Chief Constable

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



18th June 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 584/25 Ketamine Arrests

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 5th June 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information:

Statistics showing the number of people who have been arrested for possession of ketamine (class B) under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 in each of the last 5 calendar years.

Specific offences:

- *Possession of a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Possession of a Controlled Drug with Intent to Supply – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Supply or Offer to Supply a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Production or Cultivation of a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*

And for each of those categories, are you able to break down the numbers to separate offenders over 18s and under 18s.

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.

The information provided was extracted from Cumbria Constabulary's crime recording system. The offences searched were:

- Having possession of a controlled drug - Class C - Ketamine (Special 'K' or Club 'Horse' Drug).
- Having possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class C - Ketamine (Special 'K' or Club 'Horse' Drug).
- Production of or being concerned in the production of controlled drug - Class C - Ketamine (Special 'K' or Club 'Horse' Drug).
- Supplying or offering to supply (or being concerned in supplying or offering to supply) a controlled drug - Class C - Ketamine (Special 'K' or Club 'Horse' Drug).

1. Number of people who have been arrested for Possession of Ketamine under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 in the last 5 calendar years.



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Possession of a Controlled Drug - Class B (Ketamine)		
Year	18 and Over	17 and Under
2020	1	2
2021	4	0
2022	5	0
2023	10	1
2024	13	1

Possession of a Controlled Drug with Intent to Supply- Class B (Ketamine)		
Year	18 and Over	17 and Under
2020	2	0
2021	0	0
2022	0	0
2023	7	0
2024	5	0

Supply or Offer to Supply a Controlled Drug - Class B (Ketamine)*		
Year	18 and Over	17 and Under
2020	0	0
2021	0	0
2022	3	0
2023	4	0
2024	1	0

* also included is the offence "concerned in the supply ketamine"

Production or Cultivation of a Controlled Drug - Class B (Ketamine)		
Year	18 and Over	17 and Under
2020	0	0
2021	0	0
2022	0	0
2023	0	0
2024	0	0

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.



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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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