

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



26th February 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 141/25 Drugs testing

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 1st of February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am looking for information regarding your drug testing SOP, method as to how it carried out, the type of testing strips used for urine testing and what agency is used to carry this out.

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 in response to your request has been provided by the Constabulary's professional standards department.

Answer –

Cumbria Constabulary use Abbot Toxicology to conduct drugs testing.

We carry out both with cause testing (based on intelligence) and random testing throughout the year.

A tester provided by Abbot toxicology will attend the location of the test, with all the equipment used for testing. They will take a urine sample from the person and will then take the samples back to their lap for testing. They will then provide us with the result.

In terms of type of testing strip, Cumbria Constabulary do not hold this information. Abbot Toxicology may be able to assist you with this part of your request.

Occupational Health also conduct testing prior to employment.

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



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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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