

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



6th March 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 206/25 Mobile phone driving offences

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 12th of February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *How many drivers have been stopped for using a mobile phone whilst driving in 2021?*
 - a) *How many drivers received a fine and/or penalty points for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2021?*
 - b) *How many drivers lost their licence for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2021?*
2. *How many drivers have been stopped for using a mobile phone whilst driving in 2022?*
 - a) *How many drivers received a fine and/or penalty points for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2022?*
 - b) *How many drivers lost their licence for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2022?*
3. *How many drivers have been stopped for using a mobile phone whilst driving in 2023?*
 - a) *How many drivers received a fine and/or penalty points for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2023?*
 - b) *How many drivers lost their licence for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2023?*
4. *How many drivers have been stopped for using a mobile phone whilst driving in 2024?*
 - a) *How many drivers received a fine and/or penalty points for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2024?*
 - b) *How many drivers lost their licence for using their mobile phone whilst driving in 2024?*
5. *How many drivers have been stopped for using a mobile phone whilst driving so far in 2025?*
 - a) *How many drivers received a fine and/or penalty points for using their mobile phone whilst driving so far in 2025?*
 - b) *How many drivers lost their licence for using their mobile phone whilst driving so far in 2025?*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To locate and retrieve the information you seek in part b of each question it would be necessary to undertake a manual review of all records for each year.



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I have estimated that the time required to complete a manual review to locate and extract all information relevant to your request would significantly exceed the “appropriate limit”, as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. 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 with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would 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, by virtue of Section 12(1).

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 18hour limit.

This information has been provided by the Constabulary’s Central Ticket Office.

Please note that with regards to part a of each question the figures provided appear low as Cumbria Constabulary offered a course until 1st Sept 2024 when all courses were stopped Nationally, therefore a large amount of people took this option rather than a fine and/or penalty points.

Question 1 – 276

Question 1a – 17

Question 2 – 232

Question 2a – 13

Question 3 – 393

Question 3a – 25

Question 4 – 989 (there was a specific campaign this year)

Question 4a – 127

Question 5 – 26

Question 5a – 9

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



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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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