

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



16th April 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 353/25 Building material thefts

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on the 21st of March 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

Please provide the following information:

The number of recorded thefts involving building materials stolen being stolen for each of the last 3 calendar years (2022–2024), broken down by year.

If available, please also include:

The type or description of materials stolen (e.g. timber, cement, bricks, plasterboard, etc.)

The location of where the materials were stolen from such as vans, construction sites, driveways etc.

The number of arrests and/or charges made in connection with these incidents.

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 in response to your request has been extracted from the Constabulary's crime recording system. The filter 'DIY/Trade' has been used to locate the data provided, a manual review of crime notes, and property description was then conducted.

The number of recorded thefts involving building materials stolen being stolen for each of the last 3 calendar years (2022–2024), broken down by year.

Offence Category	2022	2023	2024	Grand Total
Other Theft	18	11	10	39
Shoplifting		6	1	7
Grand Total	18	17	11	46

Description of building material type and number of item type stolen



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Item stolen Description	Total
Blocks	3
Building Material	1
Cladding	2
Copper	7
Damp Proofing Material	1
Decking	1
Door	1
Flagstones	1
Hard Core	1
Insulation Material	4
Lead	7
Lintel	1
Pipe	2
Plaster	1
Plumbing Fittings	5
Roof Material	4
Roof Slates	1
Stone	1
Timber	7
Distinct Count of Crimes Total	46

Location of crime recorded and number of crimes at those location types

Please note there were no vehicle offences found with any relevant records in the crime property details. A check of the crime notes field for the keywords building, material, trade and DIY was conducted with no results for vehicle offences.

Location Type	Total
Allotment	2
Building site	7
Commercial Site	1
Compound	2
Dispute	2
Field	3
Outside of Property	10
Retail	7
Roof	6
Storage Site	1
Van - exterior	1
Yard	4
Grand Total	46



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Please note that the Constabulary's Crime Recording System and Custody and Arrest Recording systems are not linked and therefore arrests cannot be directly linked to crimes. However, I can confirm that there were no charges or caution outcomes for the crimes identified above.

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.



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