

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



7th May 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 441/25 – Police Pursuits

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 11th April 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am writing to formally request information regarding the number of police pursuits recorded by Cumbria Constabulary between the years 2010 and 2024, inclusive.

Specifically, I would like to request the following data:

- 1. The total number of police pursuits recorded each calendar year from 2010 to 2024.*
- 2. Any relevant breakdowns of data such as:*
 - Pursuits that led to arrests or charges*
 - Pursuits that resulted in injury, damage or fatality*
 - Pursuits categorized by the type of vehicle involved (e.g., cars, motorcycles, etc.)*
 - The outcome of the pursuits (e.g., successful apprehension, abandonment, or failed pursuit)*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm that Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you seek in an easily retrievable format. In order to provide the data for Question 2, this would require a manual review of all police pursuits to identify the information specified in your request. Since 2018 we hold approximately 580 pursuit records and due to the way in which the information is recorded, each record would need to be manually read as our recording system does not have a function in which a statistical search for the information can be undertaken and extracted.

As the forms do not have a mandatory field for information relating to arrests or charges to be recorded, furthermore we would need to manually check each record separately against our arrest and crime databases.

I have estimated the time required to extract the relevant information for the time period 2018 onwards, would take at least 48 hours, based on the minimum of 5 minutes per record. The time required will significantly exceed the "appropriate limit" due to the manual review of all relevant entries.

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 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.



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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.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Cumbria Constabulary.



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