

T/Chief Constable
T/Chief Constable Darren Martland
Police Headquarters
Carleton Hall Penrith,
Cumbria
CA10 2AU



27th November 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1473/25 Fireworks Incidents

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 6th November 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. Fireworks-related incidents generally

Please provide the total number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents involving fireworks recorded by your force for each of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

2. Fireworks-related incidents involving pets or animals For each of those years, please indicate how many of these incidents involved domestic pets or companion animals (including any reports of injury, distress, or danger to such animals caused by fireworks).

If your recording system does not specifically identify incidents involving pets or companion animals, please instead provide the number of incidents that involved animals of any kind.

3. Outcomes

Where available, please indicate the final outcome or disposal of these incidents (for example: no further action, warning issued, community resolution, prosecution, referred to another agency, etc.).

If outcome data are available for the animal-related subset of incidents, please provide a separate breakdown for those cases.

Your request for information has now been considered, and I can confirm that the information you seek is held by Cumbria Constabulary, however, I am not obliged to disclose some of this to you.

Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information required for question 3 in an easily retrievable format. As the request is asking for incidents only, we cannot provide you with outcomes for them. Incidents do not have specific disposals or outcomes attached to them; however this would possibly be held in the notes of the incident. In order to retrieve the information, it would be necessary to manually review the notes and details of each individual record in order to assess if there was an outcome and provide a closure summary.

To obtain an idea of the time which would be required to respond to your request, I have estimated that it would take approximately 27 hours (based on 3 minutes per record). I am satisfied, therefore that the time required to respond to your request will exceed the “appropriate limit” of time allowed.



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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.

Notwithstanding the above, in anticipation it will still be of interest to you, it is possible to provide you with some of the information requested in the remaining questions, as it was possible to retrieve this information directly. This is information I would otherwise have advised you to submit a revised request to seek disclosure of in accordance with the duty to provide advice and assistance.

The information provided has been extracted from Cumbria Constabulary's crime recording system. A keyword search has been conducted using the terms 'firework' then 'animal' and 'pet' for question 2. For question 2 the results were manually reviewed to assess the relevance of each result.

Please note: A keyword search may not accurately identify all information held by the Constabulary. If, for example, the words were recorded in a different field, or if another name or term was used, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been undertaken.

Question 1.

The total number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents involving fireworks.

Year	Number of Incidents
2020	198
2021	90
2022	112
2023	84
2024	54
Grand Total	538

Question 2.

The number of fireworks-related incidents involving pets or animals.

Year	Number of Incidents
2020	2
2021	4
2023	2
Grand Total	8

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



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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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