

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



20th October 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1328/25 Driving Too Slowly Charges

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 23rd September 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

*A driver in the UK may be charged with an offence for **driving too SLOWLY**, typically recorded as 'careless driving' or 'dangerous driving'.*

- *How many careless driving/dangerous case/driving offences have been recorded by your force that also reference driving too 'slow' or too 'slowly'.*
- *Could I have a breakdown of those figures going back five years (specifically for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 so far).*
- *Of any recorded cases, are you able to state the name of the road in which the offence took place.*
- *If possible, please state the AGE of the driver charged with the offence*
- *Please also provide any details about the nature of the charge (ie, fine, fixed penalty notice, etc).*

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 this to you.

Cumbria Constabulary does not hold the information you seek in an easily retrievable format. There are no set fields for driving too 'slow' or too 'slowly' in our records, in order to retrieve the information relating to your request, it would be necessary to manually review each individual record for 'driving without due care' to assess if there had been reference to driving too slowly. To obtain an idea of the time which would be required to respond to your request, enquiries were made to identify how many records would need to be reviewed. There were on average 330 records per full year.

I have used this figure to form an estimate of the total number of records which would need to be reviewed over the full 6-year period including 2025 up until now you have enquired about. I have estimated that it would be necessary to review almost 4,000 records in order to respond to your request, which would take approximately 64 hours (based on 2 minutes per record). I am satisfied, therefore that the time required to respond to your request will significantly exceed the "appropriate limit" of time allowed.

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.



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

BRONZE AWARD

Proudly supporting those who serve.



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.

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

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.

