

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



30th October 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1390/25 Taxi Driver Sexual Offences

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 13th October 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *Can you please provide a count of sexual offences by taxi and PVH drivers for the last three financial years (2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25).*
- *Can these statistics please be categorised by:*
 - *Month*
 - *Nature of offence*
 - *Time of day*

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. In order to retrieve the information relating to your request, it would be necessary to manually review individual records in order to extract the information you have requested.

The occupation of a suspect or offender is not a mandatory field when recording offences. This means that the field is not populated with enough consistency to get an accurate and meaningful result using a keyword search. Therefore, it would require a manual review of the crime/investigation notes of each and every sexual offence reported in the last three financial years to assess which offences are relevant to the above question. To obtain an idea of the time which would be required to respond to your request, enquiries were made to identify how many offences were recorded in the previous three financial years. – the figure was over 6,500.

Using this figure, I have estimated that it would take approximately 108 hours to respond to your request (based on 1 minute 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.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act does not oblige a public authority to comply



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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.



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