

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



5th September 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1188/25 Reports of Sexual Assault - No Further Action

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

*This is a request for information according to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
It relates to a no further action decision following a report of rape or sexual assault.
Please note there are three parts to my request.*

- 1. In the time period 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025, how many (a) rape investigations, (b) sexual assault by penetration investigations and (c) sexual assault investigations were carried out by your force. Please provide the data per offence, e.g. 1 rape; 2 sexual assault by penetration; 3 sexual assaults.*
- 2. In the time period 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025, how many (a) rape investigations, (b) sexual assault by penetration investigations and (c) sexual assault investigations resulted in no further action at the point of the evidence being reviewed by the reviewing/supervising officer. Please provide the data per offence, e.g. 1 rape; 2 sexual assault by penetration; 3 sexual assaults.*
- 3. In the time period 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025, how many (a) rape investigations, (b) sexual assault by penetration investigations and (c) sexual assault investigations in which the outcome was to take no further action, how many of those decisions were appealed by way of the victim asking for the case to be reviewed. (VRR process). Please provide the data per offence, e.g. 1 rape; 2 sexual assault by penetration; 3 sexual assaults.*

In relation to question 3, I have estimated the time required to extract the relevant information required will exceed the “appropriate limit” as this would require a manual review of all relevant entries.

The Right to Review appeals are not fully recorded in a central location. While most of the initial VRR requests will be received by Central Services, some appeals may go directly to department meaning they are not logged in the same area. In addition, requests sent to Central Services are then transferred to department to review so details are not recorded locally.

To answer this question, it would require collecting all VRR requests from the relevant departments and a manual review of all cases to assess relevance as details will be recorded in the crime report rather than a recordable field. I believe this would take longer than the appropriate limit of time to complete.



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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.

Please note: The information provided has been extracted from Cumbria Constabulary's crime recording system. This response uses crime count instead of investigation count, under the assumption that every sexual offence is investigated. The filters applied used the offence group of 'Sexual Offences' and offence subgroups of 'Rape' and 'Sexual Assault'.

Section C, relating to sexual assault, is ALL offences with the Offence Subgroup mentioning sexual assault. Section B, relating to sexual assault by penetration, is ALL offences with the Offence Subgroup mentioning sexual assault that also have an offence mentioning penetration. N100 outcomes were excluded for rape offences.

Question 1

1a. The number of rape crimes recorded from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Year Month	Distinct Count of Report URN
2024	
Jan	54
Feb	46
Mar	44
Apr	38
May	37
Jun	43
Jul	53
Aug	35
Sep	44
Oct	42
Nov	40
Dec	41
2025	
Jan	32
Feb	38
Mar	39
Apr	34
May	42
Jun	36



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Jul	57
Grand Total	795

1b. The number of sexual assault by penetration crimes recorded from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Year Month	Distinct Count of Report URN
2024	
Jan	6
Feb	13
Mar	4
Apr	4
May	9
Jun	7
Jul	4
Aug	3
Sep	8
Oct	9
Nov	6
Dec	3
2025	
Jan	10
Feb	13
Mar	5
Apr	4
May	8
Jun	10
Jul	9
Grand Total	135

1c. The number of sexual assault crimes recorded from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Year Month	Distinct Count of Report URN
2024	
Jan	42
Feb	54
Mar	53
Apr	50
May	69
Jun	59
Jul	66
Aug	55
Sep	49
Oct	43



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Nov	71
Dec	73
2025	
Jan	61
Feb	50
Mar	59
Apr	45
May	76
Jun	62
Jul	71
Grand Total	1108

Question 2

2a. The number of Rape crimes that resulted in no further action at the point of the evidence being reviewed by the reviewing/supervising officer from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Please note: There are 278 crimes awaiting outcomes assigned.

NFA outcome total	491
11 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility	3
12 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect too ill or died before crime was reported to police	8
13 - Named Suspect Identified - Victim or Key Witness is Dead or Too Ill	3
14 - Named Suspect NOT identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Declines or Unable to Support	83
15 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Supportive	65
16 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim NOT Supportive	275
18 - Investigation Complete - Crime Investigated as far as reasonably possible	44
20 - Further Action by Another Body or Agency	5
21 - Further Investigation is Not in the Public Interest - Police (named suspect or known suspect capable of being identified)	4
22 - Diversionary, educational or intervention activity undertaken (Pathways / deferred prosecution)	1

2b. The number of Sexual Assault by Penetration crimes that resulted in no further action at the point of the evidence being reviewed by the reviewing/supervising officer from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Please note: There are 45 crimes awaiting outcomes assigned.



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NFA outcome total	85
11 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility	1
12 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect too ill or died before crime was reported to police	1
14 - Named Suspect NOT identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Declines or Unable to Support	6
15 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Supportive	13
16 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim NOT Supportive	41
18 - Investigation Complete - Crime Investigated as far as reasonably possible	20
20 - Further Action by Another Body or Agency	3

2c. The number of Sexual Assault crimes that resulted in no further action at the point of the evidence being reviewed by the reviewing/supervising officer from 1 January 2024 up to 31 July 2025.

Please note: There are 252 crimes awaiting outcomes assigned.

NFA outcome total	781
11 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility	16
12 - Named Suspect Identified - Suspect too ill or died before crime was reported to police	16
13 - Named Suspect Identified - Victim or Key Witness is Dead or Too Ill	10
14 - Named Suspect NOT identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Declines or Unable to Support	86
15 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim Supportive	154
16 - Named Suspect Identified - Evidential Difficulties: Victim NOT Supportive	362
17 - Prosecution time limit expired: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit has expired.	1
18 - Investigation Complete - Crime Investigated as far as reasonably possible	98
20 - Further Action by Another Body or Agency	13
21 - Further Investigation is Not in the Public Interest - Police (named suspect or known suspect capable of being identified)	20
22 - Diversionary, educational or intervention activity undertaken	2
22 - Diversionary, educational or intervention activity undertaken (Pathways / deferred prosecution)	2
5 - Offender Has Died	1



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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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