

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



11th September 2025

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1225/25 HGV Hand-held CB Radio Devices

I refer to your request for information which was received by Cumbria Constabulary on 14th August 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *Any policy documents, standard operating procedures, or internal guidance used by officers in relation to the detection, enforcement, or investigation of alleged unlawful use of communication devices by HGV drivers, including but not limited to hand-held CB radio devices.*
2. *Any driver training materials, lesson plans, or operational bulletins that explain:*
 - *Whether the use of a hand-held CB radio by a driver of a goods vehicle is lawful under current UK legislation.*
 - *The correct procedure for an officer to follow if they suspect an HGV driver is using a hand-held CB radio.*
3. *Any references within the Constabulary's operational guidance to the relevant legislation (e.g., Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, as amended) or Home Office/Department for Transport guidance on the matter.*
4. *Any examples of operational or tactical guidance given to roads policing officers on distinguishing between lawful CB use and unlawful use of a mobile telephone or other device.*

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm Cumbria Constabulary does hold some information relevant to your request and where this is the case I have today decided to disclose this to you.

Question 1.

There are no specific documents, SOP or internal guidance in relation to the detection of the above. There is no operational difference between vehicle types when enforcing mobile phone type offences.

Question 2.

This is not a topic covered within Driver Training.

Question 3.

Specific guidance around mobile phone legislation is for officers to issue a Traffic Offence Report. This would then lead to either points (6) and a fine (£200) or summons to court. Cumbria no longer offer an out of disposal course for this offence.

Question 4.

There is no specific guidance on this element of the legislation, and this would be managed on a case-by-case basis.



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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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