

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



21<sup>st</sup> January 2026

Dear

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 1633/25 Banned Dogs and Kennels**

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

- 1. For each of last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, how many dogs have been seized by the force after being assessed as being a banned breed or type?*
- 2. For each of the last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, on how many occasions has your force used the Interim Exemption Scheme for dogs assessed as being a banned breed or type?*
- 3. How many dogs are currently in kennels as a result of being seized as a banned breed or type by your force?*
- 4. For dogs that are currently in kennels as a result of being seized as a banned breed or type by your force, what is the average length of stay in kennels, in days? Are you able to say what the shortest and longest durations are?*
- 5. For each of the last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, how many times has your force been required to use a kennelling facility outside of your normal contracted kennels due to capacity issues?*
- 6. Are you able to estimate at what percentage of kennel capacity your force is currently operating in regard to dogs housed in contracted kennels due to being assessed as being a banned breed?*

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**

The number of dogs that have been seized by Cumbria Constabulary under Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

|                              | <b>2021</b> | <b>2022</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>2025</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Number of dogs seized</b> | 0           | 7           | 2           | 43          | 37          | <b>89</b>    |

### **Question 2.**

In the last 5 years the force has issued One (1) Interim Exemption, and this was in 2021.



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**Question 3**

There are currently 10 dogs in kennels as a result of being seized as a banned breed or type.

**Question 4**

The response to Question 4 is no information held.

**Question 5**

There have been no instances in the last 5 years where the force has been required to use a kennelling facility outside of the normal contracted kennels due to capacity issues.

**Question 6.**

We cannot provide estimates or percentages that do not already exist for the purpose of Freedom of Information, therefore the response to Question 6 is no information held.

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](mailto: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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