Agenda Item 06(iii)

CUMBRIA CONSTABULARY

USE OF FORCE IN CUMBRIA - FY 2025-2026, QUARTER 1

Management Information Services

4Cs

CONTEMPT FOR CRIMINALITY · COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS · COMMUNITY FOCUS · CARE FOR COLLEAGUES

Contents

1. Forms submitted

All figures quoted within this document are for the data period 01/04/2025 – 30/06/2025 (inclusive) and concerns the number of use of force forms submitted and **not** the number of incidents, unless stated otherwise. During this period, there were a total of **3,020** use of force forms submitted within Cumbria Constabulary. This is an increase of 4.5% on last quarter, where 2,891 forms were submitted.

2. Tactics used

The following table summarises each tactic used and the number of forms in which each tactic appears in. Note that there may be more than one tactic used against any individual and that the 'not applicable' category has been removed.

Tactic	Count	%	Change from previous FY
Handcuffing compliant	1293	30.3%	+1.2pp
Unarmed skills	1091	25.6%	+0.9pp
Handcuffing non-compliant	696	16.3%	-0.6pp
Ground restraint	419	9.8%	+0.5pp
Other/improvised	332	7.8%	-0.3pp
Cell insertion	170	4.0%	+0.1pp
C.E.D	81	1.9%	-0.6pp
Limb/body restraints	58	1.4%	-0.4pp
Irritant spray - PAVA used	52	1.2%	-0.4pp
Spit guard	32	0.8%	+0.1pp
Irritant spray - PAVA drawn	14	0.3%	-0.3pp
Irritant spray - CS used	8	0.2%	-0.1pp
Dog deployed	7	0.2%	0.0pp
Baton drawn	2	>0.0%	-0.1pp
Irritant spray - CS drawn	7	0.2%	+0.1pp
Baton used	2	>0.0%	-0.1pp
Shield	2	>0.0%	0.0pp
AEP drawn	0	0.0%	-0.1pp
AEP used	0	0.0%	0.0pp
Dog biting	0	0.0%	0.0pp
Firearms aimed	0	0.0%	-0.1pp
Firearms fired	0	0.0%	0.0pp
Grand Total	**4266**	**100.0%**	

In the above table, C.E.D refers to Conducted Energy Devices (i.e. tasers) and AEP refers to Attenuating Energy Projectiles.

3. Taser Usage

The below data is a summary of the highest taser usage per taser incident. Note that tasers can be used multiple times per incident, and that the below is a count by the highest usage which occurred during a single usage of the taser and **not** a count by the number of forms in which a taser was used.

Usage	Count	%
Red-dot	41	39.0%
Drawn	30	28.6%
Aimed	25	23.8%
Discharged	7	6.7%
Arced	1	1.0%
Drive-stun	1	1.0%
Grand Total	**105**	**100.0%**

4. Subject demographics

The next three tables are a representation of the demographics of the individuals involved in each use of force form. The tables show the splits by gender, age group and officer-perceived ethnicity.

Gender	Count	%
Male	2329	77.1%
Female	680	22.5%
Transgender	11	0.4%
Grand Total	**3020**	**100.0%**

Age Group	Count	%
Under 11	9	0.3%
11 - 17 yrs	316	10.5%
18 - 34 yrs	1420	47.0%
35-49 yrs	1004	33.2%
50 - 64 yrs	242	8.0%
65+	29	1.0%
Grand Total	**3020**	**100.0%**

In addition to the overall demographic volumes, these can further be broken down by the demographics of the most common four tactics used (handcuffing compliant, unarmed skills, handcuffing non-compliant, and ground restraint).

	Handcuffing compliant		Unarmed skills		Handcuffing non-compliant		Ground restraint	
Gender	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**
Male	1106	85.5%	787	72.1%	495	71.1%	324	77.3%
Female	186	14.4%	297	27.2%	198	28.4%	92	22.0%
Transgender	1	0.1%	7	0.6%	3	0.4%	3	0.7%
Grand Total	1293		1091		696		419	

	Handcuffing compliant		Unarmed skills		Handcuffing non-compliant		Ground restraint	
Age group	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**
Under 11	1	0.1%	4	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
11 - 17 years	96	7.4%	141	12.9%	88	12.6%	45	10.7%
18 - 34 years	613	47.4%	532	48.8%	337	48.4%	222	53.0%
35 - 49 years	460	35.6%	330	30.2%	218	31.3%	129	30.8%
50 - 64 years	117	9.0%	67	6.1%	44	6.3%	23	5.5%
65+	6	0.5%	17	1.6%	9	1.3%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	**1293**		**1091**		**696**		**419**	

	Handcuffing compliant		Unarmed skills		Handcuffing non-compliant		Ground restraint	
Officer-defined ethnicity	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**
White	1216	94.0%	1043	95.6%	666	95.7%	395	94.3%
Black (or Black British)	28	2.2%	29	2.7%	12	1.7%	15	3.6%
Asian (or Asian British)	27	2.1%	7	0.6%	4	0.6%	1	0.2%
Other	13	1.0%	5	0.5%	8	1.1%	3	0.7%
Mixed	7	0.5%	7	0.6%	6	0.9%	5	1.2%
Chinese	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	**1293**		**1091**		**696**		**419**	

	Red-dot		Drawn		Aimed		Discharged		Arced		Drive-stun		Grand Total
Officer-defined ethnicity	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**
White	36	40.0%	26	28.9%	19	21.1%	7	7.8%	1	1.1%	1	1.1%	**90**
Black (or Black British)	3	37.5%	2	25.0%	3	37.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**8**
Asian (or Asian British)	2	28.6%	2	28.6%	3	42.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	**7**

For comparison, the below table indicates the population of Cumbria, the North-West, and England broken down by ethnicity. This data is from the 2021 ONS Census. (Source: Census - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)).

	Cumbria		North West		England	
Ethnic Group	**Volume**	**Percentage**	**Volume**	**Percentage**	**Volume**	**Percentage**
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	4,908	0.98%	622,685	8.39%	5,426,392	9.61%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	1,195	0.24%	173,918	2.34%	2,381,724	4.22%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	4,003	0.80%	163,245	2.20%	1,669,378	2.96%
White	488,027	97.64%	6,347,394	85.57%	45,783,401	81.05%
Other ethnic group	1,715	0.34%	110,156	1.49%	1,229,153	2.18%
Total	**499,848**		**7,417,398**		**56,490,048**	

Mirroring the trends observed in the stop search report, this comparison data is not necessarily a reliable representation of the overall demographic of the population that Force was used on. As the table above only includes the resident population, and use of force incidents can occur against a population travelling along the M6 and A66 for example. Additionally, there are approximately 41 million tourists visiting Cumbria yearly, which significantly changes the overall demographics of county. For these reasons caution should be used when comparing Use of Force demographics against purely resident population of the county.

5. Injuries

There was a total of 200* subjects injured. Of these 197 were minor injuries, 2 were severe.

**One use of force form was temporarily removed due to data quality errors, this has been returned to the officer pending correction.*

There was a total of 126 officers injured. Of these 124 were minor injuries and 2 were severe.

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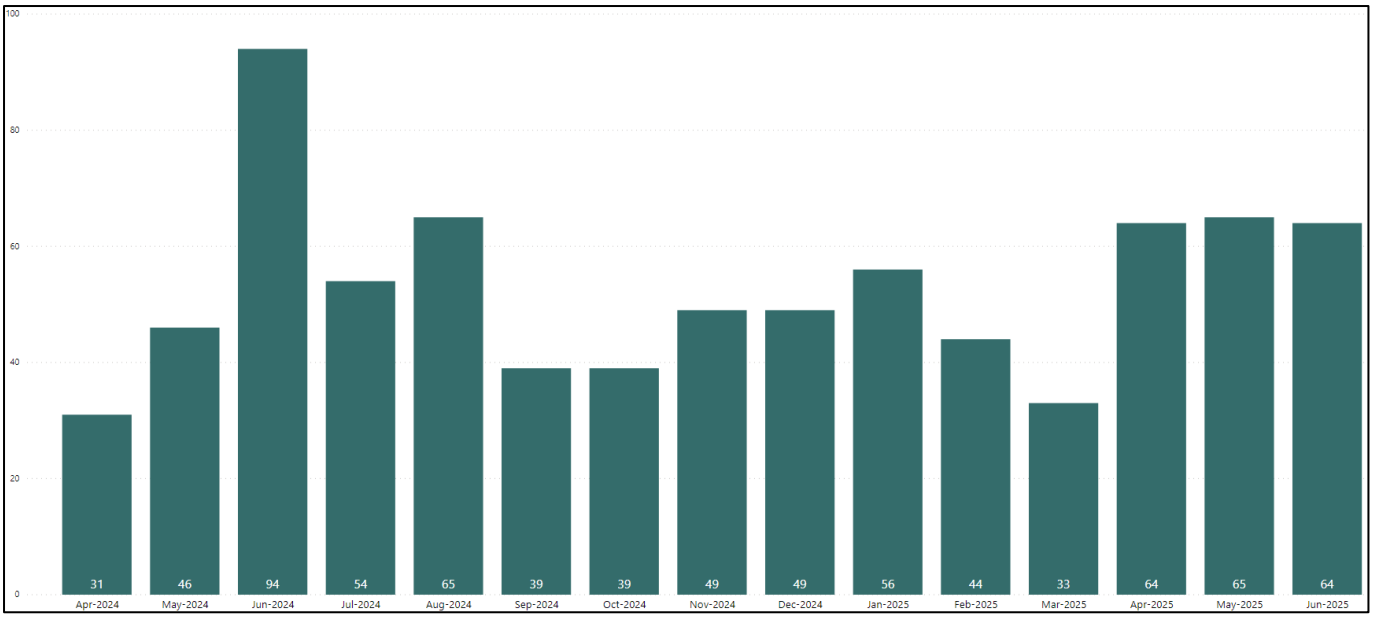
The volume of assaults without injury on a constable was 130 (35 more than in the previous quarter). The volume of assaults with injury on a constable was 34 (10 more than in the previous quarter).



Overall, there have been 164 crimes recorded within the first quarter of FY 25/26, this is an increase of 45 crimes (37.8%) from the previous quarter. There quarter has consisted overall with similar numbers per month, however these are considered high when in compared to the preceding months.

6. Reasoning

The table below summarises the reasoning behind the need for force being used. Note that there may be multiple reasons for force being user per form.

Reason	Count	%
Protect self	1984	17.6%
Protect other officers	1570	13.9%
Effect arrest	1375	12.2%
Protect subject	1237	11.0%
Prevent escape	1173	10.4%
Prevent offence	779	6.9%
Prevent harm	766	6.8%
Protect public	705	6.2%
Secure evidence	472	4.2%
Effect stop and search	380	3.4%
Effect search in custody	224	2.0%
Other	218	1.9%
Remove handcuffs	207	1.8%
Effect other search	198	1.8%
Grand Total	**11288**	**100.0%**

The following table shows the outcomes entered on each of the use of force forms. Multiple outcomes can be entered on any single form.

Outcome	Count	%
Arrested	2115	68.9%
No further action	506	16.5%
Other	282	9.2%
Hospitalised	115	3.7%
Detained - Mental Health Act	51	1.7%
Grand Total	**3069**	**100.0%**

7. HMIC Metrics

	Asian (or Asian British)		Black (or Black British)		Chinese		Mixed		Other		White	
Outcome	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**	**Count**	**% ethnicity**
Arrested	27	73.0%	46	65.7%	2	100.0%	13	76.5%	18	72.0%	2009	68.8%
No further action	6	16.2%	13	18.6%	0	0.0%	1	5.9%	4	16.0%	482	16.5%
Other	2	5.4%	10	14.3%	0	0.0%	3	17.6%	2	8.0%	265	9.1%
Hospitalised	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	115	3.9%
Detained - Mental Health Act	2	5.4%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.0%	47	1.6%
Grand Total	**37**	**100.0%**	**70**	**100.0%**	**2**	**100.0%**	**17**	**100.0%**	**25**	**100.0%**	**2918**	**100.0%**

In this past quarter there were a total of 3,020 use of force forms submitted and 3,047 arrests resulting in a 99.1% use of force forms per arrest proportion. This is below the HMIC target of 120%. This metric is included as for every arrest there is likely to have been at least one form of use of force taken place (typically handcuffing).

8. Executive Summary

Compliant handcuffing is the most common tactic used in use of force incidents with 30.3% of the proportion. This is followed by unarmed skills (25.6%), non-compliant handcuffing (16.3%) and ground restraint (9.8%) respectively. In terms of taser usage (AEP), red-dot is the most prevalent level, this being the highest used level 39.0% of the time.

For the demographics of the subjects in which force has been used against, the majority is on males (77.1%), 18 to 34-year-olds (47.0%) and of white ethnic backgrounds (95.0%). With regards to the demographics split by tactic, complaint handcuffing has a higher proportion of male subjects (85.5%) as opposed to the other tactics which are all approximately at the 72% to 77% range. Females are more likely to have noncompliant handcuffing or unarmed skills used in comparison to other methods. Age groups and ethnicities follow similar trends in terms of tactics to the overall proportion of the uses of force.

The volume of assaults on constables both causing injury and otherwise has increased when compared to the previous quarter – this is an overall increase of 37.8% from the quarter preceding this. The most common reasoning behind officers needing to use force was to protect themselves (17.6%), followed by to protect other officers and to effect arrest.

Finally, in the majority of instances (68.9%), the outcome of force being used has led to an arrest. This is also the case for each ethnic group, being between 65% and 76% (other than Chinese where there are only 2 instances of force being used).

9. Website Links

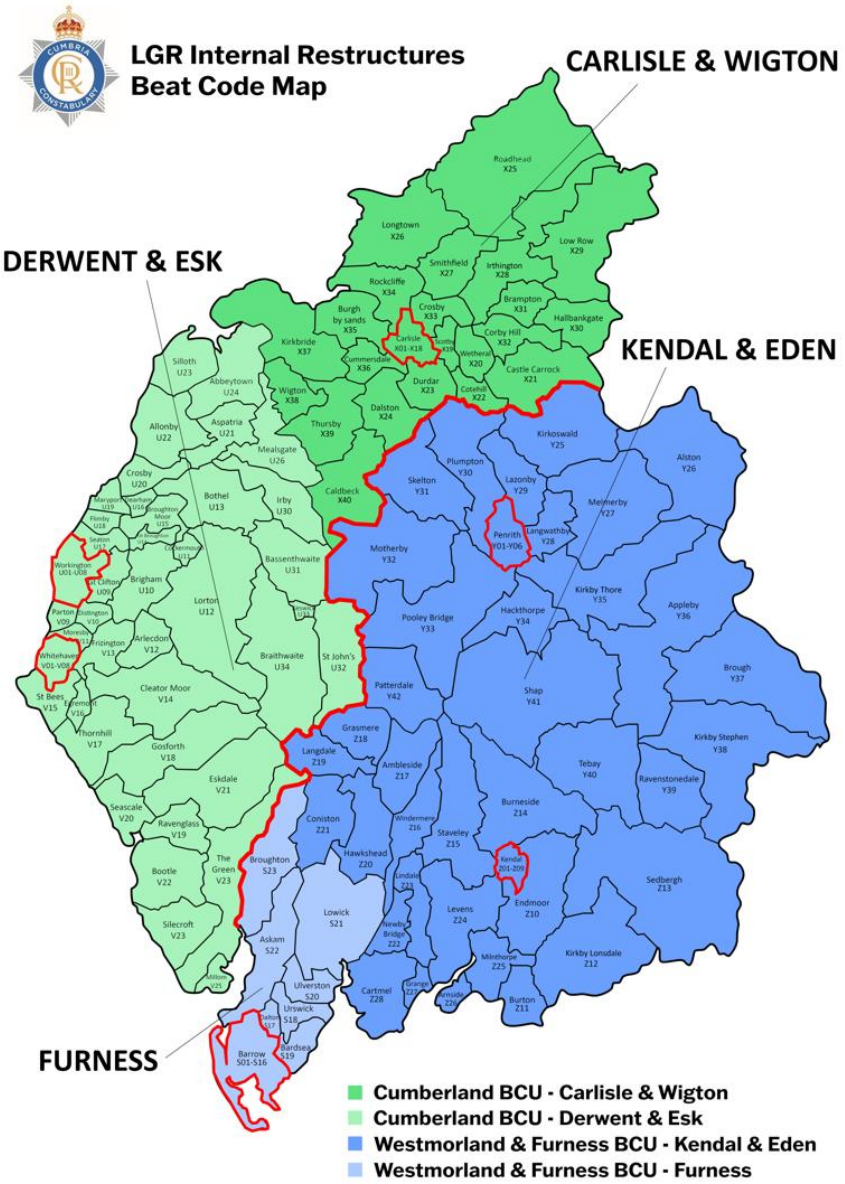
- Cumbria Police Homepage
- Cumbria Police Stats and Data
- Cumbria Police on X (Formerly known as Twitter)

Glossary

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS): Independently assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of police forces and fire & rescue services, in the public interest.

Basic Command Unit: The region covered by Cumbria Constabulary, there are two BCUs in the force, Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness. These are further split into two quadrants each. For

Cumberland BCU, Carlisle & Wigton and Derwent & Esk. For Westmorland and Furness BCU, Kendal & Eden, and Furness.



No further action (NFA): Is a form of outcome following a stop and search does not result in any further action being taken (e.g., no items were seized / no arrest was made) Positive Outcome: A positive outcome is classed as a search that has an outcome such as: arrest; the seizure of items; or alternate disposal, such as a caution or community resolution.