

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1828
Date: 15 September 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

I would like to request information held by Police Scotland about the reported theft of foreign registered motorcycles within Scotland.

If you have statistics, I would be grateful if these could show reported thefts by month for 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2022 (to date). I think 2020 and 2021 are not statistically significant given the request relates to foreign registered motorcycles.

I would be grateful if the statistics could also identify the City or region.

Finally, do you hold statistics about how many motorcycles are recovered after being stolen?

Having considered your request in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, thefts of motorcycles would fall into the more general classification of Theft of a Motor Vehicle and are not thereafter sub classified into the type of vehicle. I can also advise you that if a vehicle is stolen during a housebreaking this will be recorded as such rather than as separate crimes. Therefore the only way to establish how many motorcycles have been stolen is to manually examine each and every one of the relevant crime reports. As such this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To illustrate, our multi member statistics published at the start of 2020 show that between 2017/18 and 2019/20 there were 12, 589 recorded offences of Theft of a Motor Vehicle.

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You can access our published crime statistics via: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/f5slniok/mmw-area-data-q-3-2019-20.xlsx>

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalrnarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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