| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1785  Responded to: xx July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please could you provide me with the following information,

## a) The number of car theft incidents reported to your force between 1 January 2023 and 30 June 2023;

## b) The number of those incidents where a police officer arrived at the scene of the incident.

In response to your request, 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, crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD) crime classification codes which in this instance would be ‘Theft of vehicle’. However, there is no further sub-classification or marker which allows the automatic retrieval of vehicle type (i.e. car).

As such, the only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each and every report for all relevant vehicle thefts for the time period requested, to establish the type of vehicle stolen.

As illustrated by our published [crime statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/), this would involve case by case assessment of thousands of crime reports, and as such this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the fee regulations set out in the Act.

To be of some assistance you may be interested in those general statistics which are searchable via the link above.

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.