

OFFICIAL

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1661
Date: 8th August 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 am writing to seek clarification on some crime figures to assist with a case my office is currently dealing with. I would be grateful if you could provide a response to the below points.

1. What are the most recent figures for motorcycle thefts by division in Scotland?

2. What are the figures for motorcycle thefts in Edinburgh over the past 5 years?

In response to your two questions above, 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, in regards to a breakdown across Scotland, Police Scotland currently use the legacy crime recording systems that were in place when it was formed. Due to variations in search capability and the information that is recorded on each system, the only way to obtain reliable statistics would be for all thefts to be retrieved and then manually examined to determine if a motorcycle was involved.

In regards to the breakdown for just Edinburgh, although a single system is involved, a manual review would still be required to ensure thefts of motorcycles that took place as part of housebreakings etc was also covered. This would require a manual review of each theft for a 5 year period to check the property involved and would likely extend to the free text notes within each report.

Both of these tasks would take many hundreds of hours to complete.

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Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management 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, Dalmarnock, 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.