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Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0866
Date: 21 April 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**I am attempting to get the most up-to-date data for datasets from my previous request as the data supplied was a year out of date.
Under FOI legislation I am requesting the number of reported dog thefts for the 2021/2022 year.**

Please split this by division as per the table previously supplied.

A general number for the cases detected would also be appreciated.

And also the locus type as per this table...

And the day of the week as per this table...

I should clarify that the plan is to make this request annually to update a dynamic data chart embedded within a wider story. The examples of notable cases was extremely useful and appreciated, as would similar anecdotes for the 2021/2022 year.

As was explained in our response to your previous request (22-0679 which sought similar data for a few divisions of Police Scotland going back to March 2020) we are unable to provide you with information regarding theft of dogs 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.

As outlined in that response and in subsequent email correspondence, the report that you were provided with was created some time ago as a specific analysis of the matter *outwith* FOI.

That exercise has not been repeated since for the later period and there are no intentions to do so.

In terms of FOI, we are not compelled to collate comparable data unless the process of doing so would cost less than £600.

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It is not possible to search the various crime recording systems in use on the basis of stolen property being an animal or dog specifically.

The analysis and report referred to therefore involved extensive case by case analysis of individual crime reports across Scotland and the estimated costs in repeating the exercise are assessed to be far in excess of the £600 limit.

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.pnn.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.