| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-0314Responded to: 09 June 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to formally request the following information regarding motor vehicle thefts within the Police Scotland for the period from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2024:

## Incident Number: A unique numeric identifier for each incident (this does not need to correspond with your internal system).

## Date and Time: The date and time of the incident occurrence or, if unavailable, the date and time of the report. If time data is not recorded, please provide the date only.

## Location: The most granular location data available (or that you are allowed to provide) for each incident, preferably in latitude and longitude coordinates. If latitude/longitude cannot be provided, please return the next most granular location data available.

## Manufacturer: The vehicle's manufacturer. If this is not a distinct column in your records, please provide the free text field where a vehicle’s manufacturer is mentioned.

## Model: The vehicle's model. If this is not a distinct column in your records, please provide the free text field where a vehicle’s model is mentioned.

I have provided data separately for 2024. With regards to data from 2020 to 2023, in accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, there is no way to extract this data without a manual search. To identify this we would need to physically examine thousands of records. For example for 2024 there were 3558 car thefts reported. To answer questions for that year alone would take 598 hours and cost £8,970. This is well in excess of the 40 hours and £600 prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act. I have provided separately the data for 2024 which was explained above for your information.

To be of assistance I have also provided a link below for our crime data.

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

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 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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by email 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.