

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1759  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

- 1. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022, the total number of drones reported as stolen within your force area and their corresponding dates.**
- 2. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022 of those reported, please specify the make and model of each drone (if recorded).**
- 3. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022 of those reported, please briefly breakdown and classify the type of theft, such as Theft from Motor Vehicle (TFMV), Burglary Domestic, Burglary Commercial, Robbery etc for each of the occurrences.**
- 4. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022 of those reported, please detail the cost of the stolen item(s).**
- 5. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022 of those reported, how many have been recovered and how many have led to a conviction?**
- 6. Between 1st January 2015 and 31st July 2022 of those reported, how many have identifying features recorded, such as a serial number?**

In response to these questions, 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, there are no relevant markers available on Police Scotland crime recording systems which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information, and so it is not possible to search for crime reports based upon the type of property stolen.

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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 crime report for all Theft offences, including Housebreaking etc. committed from the time period requested, to establish whether the property stolen was a drone.

As illustrated by our [published statistics](#), this would involve case by case assessment of a vast number of crime reports, and as such this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the fee regulations set out in the Act.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, 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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarock, 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](mailto: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.