



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-01073

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Thefts within Farming Areas

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

Question 1

I am writing to ask if, under the Freedom of Information Act, you could make available a log of incidents/crimes reported in the force area from October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and in the same months in the years previously from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 2

How many sheep have been stolen from October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 3

How many other forms of livestock have been stolen since October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 4

How many tractors have been stolen since October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 5

How many ATVs have been stolen since October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 6

How much other farm equipment has been stolen since October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 7

How many thefts of red diesel have there been since October 1 to March 31 2010/2011 and from October 1 to March 31 2009/2010.

Question 9

How many of these crimes have been solved by police?

Answer

Please see the table at the end of this correspondence providing information in answer to questions 1 - 7 and question 9.

Question 8

How many of these crimes have been committed by 'travelling' criminals?

Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. There is no classification to search for 'travelling' criminal on our Crime Recording systems. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Overall recorded crime and burglary, robbery and theft offences by stolen property type

Northern Ireland

Please Note: These figures are based on number of offences, **NOT** number of items stolen. Also, this information is taken from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change.

		1 st Oct 2009-31 st Mar 2010		1 st Oct 2010-19 th Mar 2011	
		Recorded	Of those recorded, the number since detected ^{1,2}	Recorded	Of those recorded, the number since detected ^{1,2}
Total number of recorded offences		51505	13064	46223	9326
Burglary, robbery or theft offences where the property stolen was.....	Sheep	16	0	20	0
	Other livestock ³	57	0	48	1
	Tractor/s	26	1	19	0
	Quad bike/s	58	0	46	1
	Other farm equipment	15	0	21	0
	Diesel	114	7	168	21

Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI

¹ Detection figures are subject to revision as non-detected offences may be under ongoing investigation and may still be detected.

² Detections are, broadly speaking, those crimes that have been detected by the police. Crimes are counted as 'detected' in accordance with strict counting rules issued by the Home Office. They are counted on the basis of crimes rather than offenders. For example, if six offenders are involved in a robbery and are all arrested and charged, then this counts as one detection (i.e. the robbery is deemed to be 'detected'). Alternatively if only one of the six is identified and charged while the other five remain unidentified and at large, this also means that the robbery can still be deemed as 'detected'.

The following methods of detections involve a formal sanction:

- Charging or issuing a summons to an offender;
- Issuing a caution to the offender;
- Having the offence accepted for consideration in court;
- The offender is a juvenile who is dealt with by means of an informed warning, restorative caution or prosecutorial diversion.

In addition, for the most serious offence types ('indictable only' – see recorded crime paragraph above for explanation) a non sanction detection can be claimed if:

- The Public Prosecution Service (PPS) directs no prosecution; or
- The case cannot proceed because the offender has died.

³ Other livestock includes poultry, cattle, horse or pig.