



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-00412

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Vehicle Thefts in Banbridge District

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

The number of vehicle thefts across the Banbridge District in the past three years (2009, 2010, 2011 and up until now in 2012). Please specify, where possible, the locations of the thefts e.g. Banbridge, Dromore, Dromara, Rathfriland etc.

Question

The number of thefts classed as rural thefts or thefts from rural areas for each year.

Answer

Please find the response in relation to questions 1 and 2 in the attached table at the end of this correspondence.

Question

Of these thefts, the number of vehicles in each year which were later recovered in/tracked to an area across the border in the Republic of Ireland.

Answer

Searches were conducted which failed to locate any records as the PSNI crime recording system does not have the specific fields to store the information relevant to your request. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

The An Garda Síochána may be able to assist with this response and below I have provided a link to the website:

<http://www.garda.ie/Index.aspx>

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.psni.police.uk

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

Recorded theft or unauthorised taking of vehicle offences in Banbridge policing area

	2009	2010	2011
BALLYWARD	0	4	0
BANBRIDGE	18	22	21
CASTLEWELLAN	0	3	1
CRAIGAVON	0	4	0
DROMARA	1	2	1
DROMORE	11	7	9
GILFORD	2	2	0
KATESBRIDGE	1	1	1
LAURENCETOWN	1	0	0
NEWRY	0	4	2
PORTADOWN	1	0	0
RATHFRILAND	3	1	2
SCARVA	0	0	1
Total	38	50	38

Source: PSNI Statistics Branch

	2009	2010	2011
Urban ¹	20	19	21
Rural ¹	18	31	14
Unknown ¹	0	0	3
Total	38	50	38

Source: PSNI Statistics Branch

¹ The Urban Rural definition has been allocated to each offence using the address postcode. In some cases postcode information was unavailable to assign an area type. The urban rural classification used in the tables above are defined by the Inter-Departmental Urban-Rural Definition Group based on settlement population sizes. More information can be found at http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk/mapxtreme_towns/Reports/ur_report.pdf.