



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-01236

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Stolen Vehicles Recorded on the Police National Computer

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 years that a vehicle will remain recorded as stolen on the Police National Computer after being reported as such in your force area.

Answer

Details of vehicles that have been reported as stolen in Northern Ireland are recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) in accordance with national policy as outlined by the National Policing Improvement Agency in the PNC Manual. All lost or stolen vehicle reports have a pre-determined lifespan. Records are 'weeded' 6 weeks after creation if the report is unconfirmed and 6 years if confirmed. When necessary, such a report may be kept on the system for many years simply by periodically extending the 'weed' date.

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.