



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-01366

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Garden Thefts

Request and Answer:

Question

How many counts of theft of private property from gardens did your force record in the following years – 2011, 2012 and 2013? I'm interested in thefts from front and back gardens or balconies attached to a house or flat. This would include theft from driveways and sheds, but would not include theft of or from vehicles.

Clarification: We require the information for the gardens of private dwellings only, not public gardens or commercial buildings.

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.

The information in the table below shows the number of offences, by calendar year, where property was stolen from gardens in Northern Ireland and is based on data extracted from a live recording system which may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

The data includes offences of burglary, robbery and theft but attempts have been excluded, as have offences of theft of a vehicle and theft from a vehicle. Figures are based on the offence location being a balcony, driveway, garden or shed attached to a house, flat or other dwelling.

Year	No Of Offences
1 st January to 31 st December 2011	940
1 st January to 31 st December 2012	1339
1 st January to 31 st December 2013*	1423

N.B. Data from 1st April to 31st December 2013 is provisional and may be subject to change.

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.psnj.police.uk

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