



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-00822

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Gravestone Thefts

Request and Answer:

Question

I would like the following under the Freedom of Information Act. Breakdown of reported incidents of gravestone/headstone theft in your jurisdiction over the last five years. Please break the data down 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009.

If possible, please provide detail of the theft, for example 'theft of metal statue from gravestone'. If this is not possible then just stick with the basic number of reported incidents.

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.

Please see the table below which shows a summary of thefts from graves from 2009 – 2013 and also the table after page 2 which gives a breakdown of items stolen, where known. All information provided is based on data extracted from a live crime recording system and 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. Figures within the current financial year, from 1st April 2013, are provisional and will be subject to change.

| Year | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Total |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Thefts | 19 | 35 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 106 |

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.

Details Of Thefts From Graves

| Year Reported | Description | Common Name |
|---------------|--------------------|--|
| 2009 | Headstone | Bible Shape Ornament |
| 2009 | Other article | Eternal Flame - Solar Light - White Marble Base |
| 2009 | Other article | Permanent Frave Light |
| 2009 | Grave Surround | |
| 2009 | Other article | Black Granite Plaque |
| 2009 | Other article | Grey Plaque For Grave Approx 1ft x 0.5ft |
| 2009 | Other article | Marble Book Left At Grave |
| 2009 | Other article | Rosary Beads |
| 2009 | Other article | 2 x Wreaths Taken But Recovered By Family Members |
| 2009 | Other article | |
| 2009 | Other article | |
| 2009 | Other article | Several Ornaments And Trinkets - No Description Available |
| 2009 | Other article | 2 Pots With Flowers, 9" Tall White Angel And A Black Stone Pot |
| 2009 | Other article | Flowers |
| 2009 | Other article | |
| 2009 | Other article | Dog Ornaments |
| 2009 | Other article | Wreath And White Floral Tribute |
| 2009 | Other article | 6 x Small Wooden Remembrance Day Crosses |
| 2009 | Headstone | |
| 2010 | Other article | Marble Grave Marker |
| 2010 | Other article | |
| 2010 | Other article | Memorial Plaque With Black And Gold Writing |
| 2010 | Other article | Copper Plaque |
| 2010 | Urn | Marble Flower Pot Stolen |
| 2010 | Other article | Flower Containers |
| 2010 | Other article | Rectangular Flower Basket |
| 2010 | Other article | Delph Flowers |
| 2010 | Other article | Artificial Flowers |
| 2010 | Urn | |
| 2010 | Grave furnishing | Container And Basket |
| 2010 | Other article | Artificial Flowers |
| 2010 | Grave furnishing | 7 x Grave Ornaments |
| 2010 | Other article | Planter Tray |
| 2010 | Other article | Flowers |
| 2010 | Other article | Stone Bible |
| 2010 | Other article | Solar Lights |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Other article | Ceramic Flower Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plants |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plants |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plants - Bunch Of Flowers |

Details Of Thefts From Graves

| | | |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2010 | Other article | Glazed Ceramic Pots Approx 10" x 12" Tall |
| 2010 | Other article | Wreath |
| 2011 | Headstone | |
| 2011 | Other article | Plaque |
| 2011 | Other article | 6" x 10" Plaque |
| 2011 | Other article | Name Plate |
| 2011 | Other article | Manchester United Footballer 3' Tall |
| 2011 | Grave Surround | |
| 2011 | Other article | Flower Planter |
| 2011 | Grave furnishing | Wicker Reindeer |
| 2011 | Other article | Basket Of Flowers And Small Ornate Robin |
| 2011 | Urn | |
| 2011 | Other article | Ornamental Pigeon |
| 2011 | Other article | Flowers And Flower Holder |
| 2011 | Household articles | Homemade Vase |
| 2011 | Other article | 2 x Plants |
| 2011 | Other article | Round Plant Pots |
| 2011 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2011 | Household articles | White Vase And 2 Bunches Of Artificial Flowers |
| 2011 | Other article | Plant Pots |
| 2011 | Other article | Ornaments, Candles And Prayer Verses |
| 2011 | Grave furnishing | Ornaments, Candles And Prayer Verses |
| 2012 | Other article | Granite Bible |
| 2012 | Other article | Black Marble Heart Grave Ornament 12" x 12" |
| 2012 | Other article | Granite Stone |
| 2012 | Other article | Plaque |
| 2012 | Other article | 2 x Grave Statues |
| 2012 | Other article | Statue Of Virgin Mary 2.5ft Tall |
| 2012 | Grave Surround | |
| 2012 | Grave Surround | |
| 2012 | Building materials | Stones From Grave |
| 2012 | Other article | Grave Stones |
| 2012 | Household articles | Plant Pots |
| 2012 | Other article | |
| 2012 | Other article | Rose Bowl, Candle & Holder, Plaques And Cards On Stands |
| 2012 | Grave furnishing | Several Ornaments And Decorations Stolen |
| 2012 | Other article | Bunches Of Flowers |
| 2012 | Other article | Flowers And Plants |
| 2012 | Other article | Small Statues Of A Dog And Angel |
| 2013 | Other article | Cross On Headstone |
| 2013 | Other article | Marble Plinth |
| 2013 | Other article | Grave Furnishing |
| 2013 | Other article | Statue Of Liverpool Footballer |
| 2013 | Other article | Footballer Statue |
| 2013 | Building materials | 3 x Bags Of Stones |
| 2013 | Other article | Marble grave Stones |
| 2013 | | 5 x Bags Of Black Marble Stones |
| 2013 | Other article | Miscellaneous Grave Ornaments |
| 2013 | Household articles | Plant Pots |

Details Of Thefts From Graves

| | | |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 2013 | Household articles | 2 x Baskets, 1 x Vase And 1 Pink Plant In Pot |
| 2013 | Other article | White Angel With Gold Lettering |
| 2013 | Art/antiques | VASE |
| 2013 | Household articles | Bunch Of Flowers And 3 Balloons |
| 2013 | Other article | Red Glazed Ceramic Pot With Flowers |