



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-03464

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Theft of Cats

Request and Answer:

Question

I wish to make a request under the Freedom of information Act 2000. Please provide figures for the number of reports received by Police Service of Northern Ireland of theft of pet cats since January 1 2010, including a break-down of those figures by year.

Please also provide figures for the number of persons proceeded against for the theft of pet cats since January 1 2010, including a break-down of those figures by year.

Clarification Sought

Statistics Branch can provide the number of crimes of burglary, robbery or theft recorded since 1st January 2010 where the property listed as stolen includes a cat. Even if the circumstances of each were read through, it may not be possible to identify if the cat was a pet. Please advise if you would be content with this.

Clarification Received

Yes, to confirm, I would be content with the suggested plan of action.

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

The figures below represent the number of crimes of burglary, robbery or theft recorded between 1st January 2010 and 3rd November 2015, where there is a linked property record classifying property as stolen and where the property description level 1 is 'Animals' and the property description level 2 is 'Cat'.

Please note this information 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.

Year	Number of crimes of burglary, robbery or theft where cat identified as being stolen
2010	2
2011	1
2012	1
2013	5
2014	3
2015 (to date)	3

One individual was given a discretionary disposal in 2012 and two individuals were given a discretionary disposal in 2014 for these offences.

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.