



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-00747

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Theft of Pet Dogs and Cats

Request and Answer:

Question 1

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) relating to the reporting of stealing of pet dogs and cats under the Theft Act. Please state how many dogs and cats were reported as stolen in your area for the following timeframes (2014, 2015 and 2016) and how many of these reported cases were resolved and the animal was returned to its owner.

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates.

	2014	2015	2016
Reports of dogs being stolen	59	61	59
Reports of cats being stolen	3	4	1

	2014	2015	2016
Cases of dogs being returned	7	2	2
Cases of cats being returned	0	0	1

Question 2

If possible, please state the three most commonly-stolen breeds of dog, and the number of each taken, in the following timeframes (2014, 2015, 2016).

Answer

The three most commonly stolen breeds of dog is not held centrally and the records are held in such a way that Statistics Branch are unable to extract this information.

Question 3

If possible, please state the three most commonly-stolen breeds of cat, and the number of each taken, in the following timeframes (2014, 2015, 2016).

Answer

There is no information held relating to the breed of cat stolen.

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.