



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-02897

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Catalytic Converter Thefts and Attempted Thefts

Request and 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.

Request 1

I am seeking information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the theft of catalytic converters from motor vehicles (including cars, vans and HGVs). In particular could you tell me: The number of reports of “thefts from motor vehicles” logged in your force area over the last five years? Please supply data for 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013. Note: if data is only available by financial year please supply this for 2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15 and 2013/14.

Answer

Figures for “thefts from motor vehicles” can be found in the spreadsheet that accompanies the latest annual trends bulletin on our website (Table 2.2):

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/police-recorded-crime-statistics/>

Request 2

Please tell me how many of the above reports involved the theft or attempted theft of a catalytic converter. Again, please provide a breakdown of the figures for the last five years.

Answer

There is no property description on the PSNI computer system to identify catalytic converter and so a search was run, based on this text appearing in the property common name or property remarks fields. 14 occurrences of the term “catalytic converter” were identified during the last 5 financial years:

10 in 2013/14

2 in 2014/15

2 in 2017/18

Please note: The figures provided represent the number of crimes of burglary, robbery or theft recorded by the police where there is a linked property record classifying property as “stolen” and where the property common name or property remarks include the text “catalytic converter”.

Data covers the financial years from 2013/14 – 2017/18.

This information is based on data extracted from a live 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.

This information has been provided by PSNI Central Statistics Unit.

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.