



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2020-01864

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Dogs stolen 2019-2020

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1) (a) of the Act we 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

In the year 2019:

- How many dogs were reported stolen at your police force?
- What breed of dogs were they?
- Where were the dogs stolen?
- Where the dogs microchipped?

Request 2

From January 2020 to September 2020

- How many dogs were reported stolen at your police force?
- What breed of dogs were they?
- Where were the dogs stolen?
- Where the dogs microchipped?

Answers

Please find the excel spreadsheet labelled 'Dogs stolen 2019-2020', which is based on all recorded burglary, robbery and theft offences where property described as 'dog' was classified as 'stolen', in the period 1st January 2019 to 30th September 2020.

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live 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.

Please also note that each offence has been given a unique identification number. Information on the number of dogs stolen may be held in the 'quantity' field, or the 'Remarks' field. Information on the breed of dog may be available in the 'Property Description' field, or within the free text entry fields 'Make' and 'Remarks'. These fields are not complete, nor are they consistently entered. Information on whether the dog has a microchip may also be recorded in the free text entry 'Remarks' field.

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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.