

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-01882

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Construction Tool And Machine Thefts 2018-2021

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

The number of tool theft and construction machine theft incidents from construction sites which have been reported,

- a. along with the value of the tools/machines and
- b. the quantity of the tools/machines that have been stolen.

This should also be broken down into the type of tool (hand-powered tool, diggers or other vehicles etc), and should be provided for the last three years up to the date of your reply to this email.

Request 2

The number of incidences of construction material theft which have been reported to you, which should include the exact materials which were reported stolen (eg steel, cement, plastics etc). This should be provided for the last three years up to the date of your reply to this email.

Answer to Request 1 and 2

The attached spreadsheet contains three tables based on all burglary, robbery and theft offences where the location was described as 'Building Site', for the period 1 August 2018 - 31 July 2021. The first table provides information on property described as 'Machinery or Tools', the second provides information on vehicles described as 'Plant equipment' and the third gives information on property described as 'building' materials.

Please Note

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.

The remarks field has been included as it may contain information on the type, make, quantity and value of items stolen. As this is a free text entry field there may be identifiable information (e.g. serial numbers) which would require redaction before being provided to the requestor.

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.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.