



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-02078

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Theft and Burglary

Subject: Tool Theft (2011 - 2022)

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 (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Request 1

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information relating to tool theft in the period 2011-2022. If this period is too extensive can this be provided for 2017-2022 inclusive. I require this information in calendar years.

How many crimes have been reported regarding tool theft, including theft of a vehicle containing tools?

Request 2

What was the reported value of the tools stolen each year?

I confirm that I am content to receive a total yearly figure only as recorded in the 'Original Value' and 'Current Value' columns from your data.

Answers 1 – 2

Please see the response provided in the table below:

The table provided below is based on all recorded burglary, robbery and theft offences where property described as 'machinery or tools' was classified as 'stolen', during the period January 2011 - July 2022.

Please note in conjunction with the information the following caveats:

(i) The information included in the table 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.

(ii) The recorded monetary information has been calculated based only on the 'Original Value' and 'Current Value' fields on the central database, were they have been recorded.

(iii) Information regarding value of tools may have been entered into a 'Remarks' free text field within the central database. Some of the information held in these fields is personal information, not complete, nor is it consistently entered. The figures provided in the table do not include additional information that may have been contained within this 'Remarks' field.

Year	Number of Offences	Yearly Figures (Based on Recorded 'Original Value' & 'Current Values' Fields Only)
2011	3,008	£1,804,753.02
2012	2,714	£3,775,466.19
2013	2,190	£1,778,177.20
2014	2,215	£1,046,587.78
2015	2,220	£1,362,154.23
2016	1,844	£1,306,106.21
2017	1,952	£1,211,955.26
2018	1,400	£1,349,066.38
2019	1,457	£991,783.94
2020	995	£997,374.17
2021	654	£495,565.96
January – July 2022	300	£299,379.75

Request 3

How many of the tool theft cases reported led to prosecution?

Answer 3

A total of 405 cases led to prosecution.

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.

Please note: The database technical team is not involved in checking reliability and validity of any data input into the central database and cannot rule out the possibility of input errors which may have influenced these figures

Information relating to convictions & prosecutions is provided by Northern Ireland Courts Service and the Public Prosecution Service to PSNI for information purposes only and may not be wholly accurate.

For accurate figures the relevant information should be sought from either Northern Ireland Courts Service or the Public Prosecution Service directly.

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.police.uk.

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/

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 their 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.