



Our Ref: 003575/20

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 27 October 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 26/10/2020.

I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *The number of home burglaries reported broken down by month for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 to date.*
2. *The value of items reported stolen broken down by month for the years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 to date.*

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Leicestershire Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information asked for is as follows: -

Please see the attachment to the Email. Please note that the HO Crime Classifications for Burglary changed in April 2017 and therefore the first few months show things under the old "rules" (garage and shed breaks were not counted as being "Burglary Dwelling" whereas they do form part of "Burglary Residential").

For Question 2 of your request -

The value of items stolen is a matter between the aggrieved and their Insurance Company and will only be recorded if it is proactively provided to us by the victims. Therefore to provide this information, if held, would require a manual search of each record to ascertain if the value of the items has been provided by the victim. This will invoke a section 12 exemption for Question 2

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Leicestershire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption(s) applicable to the information are as follows.

Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

In order to retrieve the information you have requested would therefore be in excess of the 18 hours specified by the Home Office as the time period for which a police force should allocate to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004, the current regulatory limit which has been set by the Secretary of State for public authorities, which includes the police service, is £450 for the marginal costs which are the costs of finding, sorting, editing or redacting information and disbursements (printing, photocopying etc). The Association of Chief Police Officers have agreed a national standard of an hourly rate of £25 is to be charged for the time taken. In essence therefore, the costs equate to 18 hours work per request. It will be apparent therefore that within the time frame of 18 hours it will not be possible to extract the information to answer any of your questions.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under s12(1) as the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force’s full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer

Leicestershire Police

Leicestershire Police in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law.

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