



Our Ref: 000808/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 07 April 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 10/03/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

I am running a campaign to reveal vehicle theft across the UK over the last two calendar years, therefore I require data from within your authority on the following, please:

- *Vehicle theft from all areas/locations within your authority over the last two calendar years (2020 and 2019 if possible), per year for each policing district/council area. Ideally, I would like to receive data on car theft only, if that's possible, please*
- *If possible, it would be good to have the data broken down by residential theft please, for example, cars that were stolen from their owner's property*
- *Lastly, if you filter the "type" of theft e.g., keyless entry, it would be great if you could also include this information*

Please provide the information in the form of an excel which we can then analyse.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via the below email and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

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 spreadsheet attached to the Email

Please note the "type of theft" has not been provided as the information is exempt by virtue of Section 12

I can confirm, pursuant to s1(1)(a) of FOIA that this Force does hold the information you have requested.

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.

To provide this information would require a manual search and reading of all the records to ascertain the type of theft.

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.

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police

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