

15<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20181754**

**REQUEST**

*I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information regarding vehicle thefts in the UK over the last five years.*

*Specifically, please could you provide the following figures:*

- 1) Number of vehicle thefts recorded over the last five years. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 2) Make and models of vehicles for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 3) Number of vehicles containing aftermarket telematics devices for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 4) Where the vehicle-related thefts recorded in Question 1 occurred (Postcode and/or town/city). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 5) Number of stolen vehicles recorded in Question 1 recovered by police. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 6) Recovered stolen vehicles recorded in Question 5 found to have false or cloned number plates. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*
- 7) Time of day when incidents of vehicle-related thefts in Question 1 occurred (Please offer specific times where available, or stipulate Morning/Afternoon/Evening/Night-time or AM/PM). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.*

**RESPONSE**

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator for assistance with your request. The CMS system and Connect System is used to record complaints or allegations of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes'.

She conducted a search of the two crime management systems. (CMS - our legacy system which provides data up to 4th December 2017 and our new CONNECT system which records crimes from that date onwards)

For FOI requests such as this, we access the two separate systems and the retrieval and data extraction varies greatly dependant on the search capabilities and the inputted data. The information you receive therefore may be in two different formats depending on your time parameters, and the data we can provide which will be dependent on the search capabilities of each system. All our systems are designed and used first and foremost for Policing Purposes and have limited search capability.

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet and the following explanation of her search criteria:

*Please see the attached data and the following explanation.*

*CMS(ii) data*

- 1) Number of vehicle thefts recorded over the last five years. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*I have provided a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) crime register between 01-Apr-2013 and 04-Dec-2017.*

- 2) Make and models of vehicles for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*I have included a count of stolen vehicles, broken down by the Vehicle Make and Model and vehicle type.*

- 3) Number of vehicles containing aftermarket telematics devices for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*See below.*

- 4) Where the vehicle-related thefts recorded in Question 1 occurred (Postcode and/or town/city). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of offences recorded for Q1, I have provided a breakdown by District.*

- 5) Number of stolen vehicles recorded in Question 1 recovered by police. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of stolen vehicles for Q2, I have provided the currently recovery status of those vehicles.*

- 6) Recovered stolen vehicles recorded in Question 5 found to have false or cloned number plates. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of recovered vehicles for Q6, I have provided the number of offences recorded with the MO - FALSE REGISTRATION PLATES USED*

- 7) Time of day when incidents of vehicle-related thefts in Question 1 occurred (Please offer specific times where available, or stipulate**

**Morning/Afternoon/Evening/Night-time or AM/PM). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of offences for Q1, I have provided the first time committed.*

CONNECT data

- 1) Number of vehicle thefts recorded over the last five years. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*I have provided a count of offences recorded for CONNECT crime between 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Mar-2018.*

- 2) Make and models of vehicles for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*I have included a count of stolen vehicles, broken down by the Vehicle Make and Model and vehicle type.*

- 3) Number of vehicles containing aftermarket telematics devices for thefts recorded in Question 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*See below*

- 4) Where the vehicle-related thefts recorded in Question 1 occurred (Postcode and/or town/city). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of offences recorded for Q1, I have provided a breakdown by BCU Ward.*

- 5) Number of stolen vehicles recorded in Question 1 recovered by police. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of stolen vehicles for Q2, I have provided a count of offences recorded with a Recovered date.*

- 6) Recovered stolen vehicles recorded in Question 5 found to have false or cloned number plates. Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of recovered vehicles for Q6, I have provided the number of offences with the MO DESC 3 -Stolen/ False Registration Plates used.*

- 7) Time of day when incidents of vehicle-related thefts in Question 1 occurred (Please offer specific times where available, or stipulate Morning/Afternoon/Evening/Night-time or AM/PM). Please provide a yearly breakdown as follows: 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18.**

*Of the count of offences for Q1, I have provided the first time committed.*

**Please note –**

- *A count of stolen vehicles is expected to exceed a count of offences as more than one can be recorded on any offence.*
- *Some offences will have been recorded in accordance with the below Home Office Counting Rule – The Principal Crime Rule –*

### ***The Principal Crime Rule (1 of 1)***

*IF THE SEQUENCE OF CRIMES IN AN INCIDENT, OR A COMPLEX CRIME, CONTAINS MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF CRIME, THEN COUNT THE MOST SERIOUS CRIME.*

*(NB: as it states in Section E, these incidents must involve the same offender and victim.)*

- ***Both the MO and MO DESC fields are a non-mandated requirement, therefore any results may not be an accurate reflection of what is potentially recorded on CMS(II) & CONNECT.***
- ***The First Committed Time may not be an accurate time, this could have also been recorded with an 'End Time' i.e. if the victim cannot state for certain, at what time the theft occurred and if the victim was on holiday, then first and end committed dates may have also been recorded.***
- ***We have had to take a slightly different approach to extracting the data from CONNECT as the data is not recorded in the same format as the legacy system CMS(ii). SYP have changed their central crime management system in December 2017. Therefore data from the new system cannot be used as a direct comparison due to the different ways in which crimes are recorded. However, the data has been given to comply with original request and displayed here to show an outline trend.***

Q3- We have been previously asked a similar question to this one and have been advised:

*The force doesn't record if a vehicle in the UK has a tracking device fitted.*

*Our Crime Management System does record stolen vehicles and if they were recovered. But to find if a tracking device was used to located the said vehicle it is dependent on it being inputted in a Free Text Box on the system. This would mean a manual search of every record of a stolen vehicle (for the dates your require) which was recovered to see if a tracker was used. It would also require us to search by a combination of words ie "tracker", tracker device" "GPS"or similar. This would far exceed the 18hr time limit.*

**End**

