

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2018-1114  
Date: 31 May 2018



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

**In each year since the current statutory charges were set in 2008, please provide;**

**a) the number of motorists who have paid recovery and storage charges to retrieve their stolen vehicles**

2015 - 1,811  
2016 - 2,000  
2017 - 1,999  
2018 (to-date) - 560

**and**

**(b) the amount of money motorists have paid in recovery and storage charges to retrieve their stolen vehicles**

2015 - £384,926.00  
2016 - £453,644.00  
2017 - £442,441.00  
2018 (to date) - £118,663.00

I am only able to provide you with information dating from 2 February 2015 which was the date the eight legacy police forces combined to create the Police Scotland Vehicle Recovery Scheme.

Information prior to 2 February 2015 is held locally within each Division of Police Scotland. Having considered your request in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to this part of your request would be to manually examine each and every storage record and invoice held

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prior to 2 February 2015 in order to locate any relevant to your request - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Inverness on 01463 720508 quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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