



Your reference:

Our reference: FOI_2023_0794

E-mail: FOI

@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 04/09/2023

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0794

On 06/08/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. Please can you tell me the number of dog thefts reported to your force for each of the following financial years: 2018-19, 2019-2020, 2020-21 , 2021-22 and 2022-23?
2. If possible, please state the three most commonly stolen breeds of dog and the number of each taken?
3. Please can you tell me the number of charges there were for dog thefts brought against people in the years stated above?
4. If possible within the cost limit - how many of the dogs reported stolen in question 1 were found or recovered?

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds some relevant information.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

A search of the Crime Recording System has been conducted for the offence of theft whereby the property field has been filtered for item of 'Dog' for the financial years of 01/04/2018-31/03/2023. The results are as follows:

1. The number of thefts where the property item of dog has been reported as stolen, broken down by financial year

Financial Year	Total
Apr18-Mar19	14
Apr19-Mar20	13
Apr20-Mar21	12
Apr21-Mar22	7
Apr22-Mar23	3
Total	49

2. Of the number of dogs which have been recorded as stolen where the breed of the dog has been recorded, the results of the most commonly stolen breeds are as follows:

Bulldog 7

Spaniel Cocker 3

Bull Terrier 2

Collie Border 2

Labrador 2

Lurcher 2

Spaniel Welsh Springer 2

These are the most common stolen breeds of dog which have been recorded.

3. There has been 1 charge for the dates of 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2023.

4. Of the number of dogs which have been recorded as stolen, there has been an update of 9 dogs which have been recovered.

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following means:

Website - <https://ico.org.uk/>

Call their helpline - 0303 123 1113

Email - casework@ico.org.uk

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary