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Our Ref: FOI2018/02181

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/02181

I write in connection with your request for information received on 23rd April. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. **Figures for theft of vehicles by year for the last five years**
2. **Figures for theft of vehicles by year for the last five years where 'relay' car hack (where criminals use radio transmitters to capture the signal from the car's fob to open and start the vehicle) was the method of theft I would like the above information to be provided to me as electronic copies**

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

Response - Following enquiries within the Constabulary please see our response below;

The information you have requested in question 2 is not easily retrievable from the information system. There are over 5000 offences that would require manual analysis to ascertain if this type of information is recorded. Unfortunately this means it is not possible to suggest a way to refine this request, as even if the date range were reduced it would still require hundreds of records to be manually checked.

We therefore, consider that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the appropriate limit of £450 as has been stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees & Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that –
 “Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Hertfordshire Constabulary, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact. This letter acts as a Refusal Notice under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

However, I am able to provide the following information relative to question 1 of your request, retrieved before the fees limit was exceeded. I hope this is helpful however; it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request;

Offence	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
CONSPIRE-THEFT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	2			1	
THEFT-ATTEMPT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	81	3	2	4	8
THEFT-OF MOTOR VEHICLE	701	875	803	1078	1534
Grand Total	784	878	805	1083	1542

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Sonia Chopra-Miah
Information Rights

Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Hertfordshire Constabulary if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.