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Our Ref: FOI2019/03510

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/03510

I write in connection with your request for information received on 30th May. I note you seek access to the following information:

Construction Site Theft

The number of incidents of theft from construction sites within the Warwickshire jurisdiction from 2013 onward, Items stolen during construction site thefts from 2013 onward Value of goods stolen during each theft from 2013 onward, Methods by which criminals gained access to construction sites in order to carry out the theft/s If any vandalism occurred to construction sites.

CLARIFICATION - it is meant to read Bedfordshire.

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.

Following enquiries within the Force please see our response below.

RESPONSE – Bedfordshire Police are unable to provide a value for the items stolen as this is not centrally recorded and not always captured. To attempt to retrieve this data would take well over the 18 hour time limit and therefore make your request over cost.

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 Bedfordshire Police, 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.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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 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.

Bedfordshire Police have conducted a search of their crime recording systems as a result please see our response in the document attached as **Annex A – FOI2019 03510**.

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

Yours sincerely

Gary Maxey
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Bedfordshire Police 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 Bedfordshire Police 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.