

30 April 2018

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20180568

REQUEST

I am writing in order to find out the number of thefts/robberies that took place at ATM points in South Yorkshire in recent years, under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please could you please give the number of ATM thefts/robberies that took place in the area covered by South Yorkshire Police, broken down by the year and the location of the individual ATMs: 1) In 2007 2) In 2008 3) In 2009 4) In 2010 5) In 2011 6) In 2012 7) In 2013 8) In 2014 9) In 2015 10) In 2016 11) In 2017 12) In 2018 (the months recorded so far)

RESPONSE

I approached our Data Returns officer for assistance with your request.

She initially provided the following comments:

It is not clear from the request, exactly what is required. This request could be interpreted 2 ways –

1 – Is the requester referring to circumstances where a theft from person or robbery has occurred whilst the victim was using a cash machine\ATM? If so we cannot provide a response to this as there is no scene of crime premises type of Cash Dispenser\ATM, we do list Bank, Supermarket etc as premises types but there are currently no markers to identify where the victim was using an ATM at the time the offence was committed.

2. Is the requester referring to circumstances where the offenders have stolen directly from a Cash Dispenser\ATM i.e. where they have attempted to remove the machine and steal directly from it?

On the basis that we would be unable to provide you with information relating to Option 1 above, I have advised the Officer to review the data held in respect of option 2.

Our Data returns Officer has therefore conducted a search of our 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 this date onwards. Due to difficulties with the way in which the data is extracted, data from our new CONNECT system is currently presented separately.

Each of these systems record complaints or allegations of those matters which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes' and using the criteria above our Crime Analyst has provided the raw data for my review and extraction and the following explanation:

I have searched CMS crime register for offences recorded between January 01 2007 to 04 December 2017 where

- the offence is recorded under the Home Office Offence class OTHER THEFT OR UNAUTHORISED TAKING*
- where the property sub class ATM (CASH MACHINE) has been recorded as either STOLEN or DAMAGED,*
- where the scene of crime is not like DWELLING.*

I have also searched using the same criteria but where the Meter type – CASH DISPENSER.

I have also searched CONNECT for where an offence has been recorded with the Property class 3 of Cash Machine and results are attached for the date period 04-Dec-2017 – 31-Mar-2018

Using the results from the above searches, I have manually reviewed the circumstances of each offence and extracted those which do not appear to meet the criteria of your request. **Please note this is a subjective review of the recorded information that I feel meets the criteria of your request.**

In addition, South Yorkshire Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information with regard to an exempt body as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following information:

Section 23(5) Information Supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies

Section 23 is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in this case.

None of the above can be viewed as an inference that any other information does or does not exist.