

13th January 2022

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 2021-2666

REQUEST

How many electric / e-scooters have been confiscated in your area between 01 January 2019 and 01 December 2021. Please can you provide the figures on a month-by-month basis for this time period.

RESPONSE

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

Section 12(2) – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

This information is not specifically recorded in a way which can be easily extracted. The only way in which we could attempt to collate this information is to review each crime and incident in which 'electric scooter' or 'e-scooter' is either listed as property or within the general text of an incident or crime. We would then need to review the circumstances of each report to ascertain whether this property has indeed been confiscated or mentioned for another reason.

Further to this, these records may not necessarily mention whether the property was returned to the owner, and as such where not mentioned within the context of the report, further enquiries would need to be made of each officer involved in the case. Considering previous reports for offences and incidents involving e-scooters for this time period, it is likely to exceed the 18 hour cost threshold to try and locate, retrieve and extract all the data you are requesting.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 provide that the cost limit for non-central government public authorities is £450. This must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour, providing an effective time limit of 18 hours.

If you feel your endeavours can be achieved within the appropriate limit by refining your request, South Yorkshire Police would be more than happy to consider any further request.

South Yorkshire Police

In an emergency: 999

Non-emergency: 101

[southyorks.police.uk](https://www.southyorks.police.uk)

Guidance from the Information Commissioner to public authorities is that where one part of a request is reasonably estimated to exceed the appropriate limit then the



authority is not obliged to consider or comply with the remainder of the request up to the point at which the appropriate limit has been reached. Please note point 30 of the below link:-

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf