

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request 140/19 - Dog theft

What were the total number of dog theft crimes in 2016, 2017 and 2018?

2016	12
2017	33
2018	46

What was the outcome (charge/summons, community resolution, active investigation, evidential difficulties, no suspect identified) for each dog theft crime in 2016, 2017 and 2018?

Outcome	2016	2017	2018
Charge/Summons	1	0	0
Community Resolution	1	0	0
Not in Public Interest (Police)	0	1	1
Victim declines or is unable to identify suspect	2	2	3
Evidential Difficulties	3	1	6
Victim does not support police action	1	2	4
Investigation Complete - No suspect identified	4	22	28
Not Yet Known	0	5	4

What criteria do you use for recording a dog/puppy as a theft as opposed to missing?

All crimes are recorded in line with Home Office Counting Rules:

" AN INCIDENT WILL BE RECORDED AS A CRIME (NOTIFIABLE OFFENCE) FOR 'VICTIM RELATED' OFFENCES IF, ON THE BALANCE OF PROBABILITY:

(A) THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE VICTIMS REPORT AMOUNT TO A CRIME AS DEFINED BY LAW (THE POLICE WILL DETERMINE THIS, BASED ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAW AND COUNTING RULES); AND

(B) THERE IS NO CREDIBLE EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.

A BELIEF BY THE VICTIM (OR A PERSON REASONABLY ASSUMED TO BE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIM, THAT A CRIME HAS OCCURRED IS USUALLY SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY ITS RECORDING. "

For more information see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counting-rules-for-recorded-crime>