

Scottish Police Authority submission of 9 February 2023

PE1971/D: Take Robust Action to Stop Motorcycle Theft

I refer to your correspondence of 9 January regarding the above petition and requesting information regarding Operation Soteria and the number of motorcycle thefts in each of the past 5 years.

I note you have written to Police Scotland in similar terms. Operation Soteria and Police Scotland's approach to tackling motorcycle theft is an operational matter for the Chief Constable. Police Scotland is best placed to provide the committee with the specific information it requests.

It is the Scottish Police Authority's role to closely monitor Police Scotland's performance against [five strategic outcomes](#) which are underpinned by 15 strategic objectives as detailed in the [Annual Police Plan for 2022/23](#).

The Authority's Policing Performance Committee considers quarterly reporting on Police Scotland's performance and operational activity. Vehicle crime, which includes theft of motorcycles, is a feature of this reporting. Recent reports highlight an overall increase in vehicle crime, however this is not specifically attributed to motorcycle theft. Through this quarterly reporting the Authority's Policing Performance Committee also receives updates on the annual motorcycle safety campaigns, which aim to promote safe and responsible riding and driving across Scotland's road network. This year saw 183 periods of activity with 1,850 motorcycle riders being stopped to engage, educate and encourage appropriate attitude and behaviours on the road. The Policing Performance Committee will consider its next report on performance in March. You can find out more information and view reporting at the Authority's website: www.spa.police.uk.