Freedom of Information request ref 01/FOI/26/4254
We received your request on the 08/06/2026

Request

You asked us:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following recorded information.
For the purposes of this request, "e-scooter" refers to a privately-owned electrically powered scooter (powered transporter) and does not include electrically assisted pedal cycles (e-bikes), electrically powered motorcycles or mopeds.
Please provide the following information for each of the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025:
1. The number of privately-owned e-scooters seized by your force.
2. Of those e-scooters seized, the number that were subsequently released or reclaimed by their owners.
3. The number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs), Traffic Offence Reports (TORs), or equivalent traffic disposals issued in relation to the use of privately-owned e-scooters.
Where the information requested is held but not recorded in exactly the format requested, I would be grateful if you could provide the closest available recorded information.
This request is intended to capture information that can be retrieved by way of an electronic search of your force's records systems. I am not requesting that individual records be manually reviewed.
If any part of this request exceeds the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Act, please treat each numbered question as a separate request for the purposes of cost calculations and provide any information that can be disclosed within the statutory limit. If refinement is required, I would be grateful for advice and assistance under Section 16 of the Act.
Should you consider any exemptions applicable, please specify which exemption(s) you are relying upon and explain why they apply.
I look forward to your response within the statutory 20 working days and would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this request.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Our response:

Question 1 and 2

A search of the force records management system, Niche, shows from 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2025 British Transport Police has seized the following e-scooters, that were linked to crimes:

Year	Total	Total returned to owner
2023	5	3
2024	3	1
2025	5	2

- The above figures were identified following manual review of a freetext field. There is currently no 'flag' available for an e-scooter. Therefore, there is a possibility that during data entry, the operator may have incorrectly labelled a standard scooter as an e-scooter or vice versa.

Question 3

British Transport Police as the specialist police force for the railway(s) in England, Scotland and Wales is not routinely involved in roads policing except at level crossings. Therefore, British Transport Police does not have a specific crime code or flag identifying road traffic offences committed with e-scooters.

From 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2025 British Transport Police applied a crime 'outcome' to 2518 road traffic crimes.

- 13 of these crimes related to the use of e-scooters (based on a manual reading of the MO Comments field after a keyword search was conducted for "scooter").
- Of those 13 crimes, 0 resulted in a fixed penalty notice.
- One of the 13 crimes resulted in a charge (in 2023).
- Three of the 13 crimes resulted in a summons/postal requisition (two in 2023 and one in 2025)