



## Freedom of Information Act Request

**Ref:** FOI 23-24 12

**Date issued:** 30 August 2023

**Subject:** Data relating to car washes since 2018

### Question(s):

For each calendar year since 2018 to-date, could you please tell me:

- 1. The total number of complaints (including referrals, reports, emails and phone calls), relating to car washes and car valet services, broken down by:**
  - a. Date - including month and year
  - b. Source of referral (e.g. Modern Slavery Helpline, Clewer Safe Car Washes App)
  - c. Local authority area the site is located\*
  - d. Type of allegation
  
- 2. The total number of inspections conducted of car washes, broken down by:**
  - a. Date - including month and year
  - b. Local authority area the site is located\*
  - c. The outcomes of these inspections, including but not limited to whether they required NRM referrals.

*\*If that is not available, please provide the postcode of the site. If the postcode is not available, please provide the postcode district. Failing that, provide the syndicate area.*

- 3. In relation to Question 2, of the total inspections in each year, how many were:**
  - a. In response to a complaint?
  - b. A proactive inspection?
  - c. Other\*\*

*\*\*Please provide all your categorisations*

- 4. The total number of follow-up investigations conducted in the car wash sector, broken down by:**
  - a. Date - including month and year
  - b. The status of the investigation (e.g. incomplete, complete, ongoing, closed but incomplete)
  - c. The local authority area the investigation was conducted
  - d. The outcomes\*\*\* (e.g. Modern slavery Risk Orders, prosecutions, referred to another authority, NRM referrals)

\*\*\*For all cases referred to another authority, please note which authority.

**Response:**

1. Please find attached pdf document with this information included, along with guidance on this data.
2. Please note we do not conduct 'inspections' into car washes. The information given below is for investigations undertaken in the car washing sector.

a.

Number of investigations undertaken in the car washing sector.

	2021	2022	2023
Jan	-	3	7
Feb	-	7	5
Mar	-	8	11
Apr	-	6	2
May	-	9	2
Jun	-	3	1
Jul	-	9	1
Aug	-	7	2
Sep	-	6	N/A
Oct	6	7	N/A
Nov	4	0	N/A
Dec	4	2	N/A

b.

Location of investigations undertaken in the car washing sector.

	2021	2022	2023
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Syndicate 1 (North East England)	5	17	13
Syndicate 2 (South East England)	3	39	9
Syndicate 3 (South West England, Mid/South Wales)	2	7	5
Syndicate 4 (North West England, North Wales)	4	4	4

c.

Outcomes of investigations undertaken into the car washing sector.			
	2021	2022	2023
Warning Notices	2	32	3
Enforcement Notices	2	7	1
Notification of Offences	0	5	0
Referrals to the National Referral Mechanism	0	1	1
Duty to Notify submission	0	15	0
Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order	0	8	4
Charged Absconder	5	10	8
Intelligence only	2	12	6
No further action	5	11	1

Please note, investigations may lead to more than one outcome and not all outcomes may be recorded yet where investigations are ongoing.

3. We do not record this information in a format that is easy to extrapolate.
4. We do not record this information.