



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04533

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: TYRE OFFENCES

Request:

Question 1 - I am looking for the most recent statistics on the number of motoring offences and accidents committed in your area and also, how many of these are related directly to tyre offences e.g. bald tyres / wrong type.

Question 2 - Is it also possible to know whether there were any fatal accidents, which happened in your area as a direct result of defective tyres?

Question 3 - It would also be useful to know how many fines and points were issued due to defective tyres and the total amount these accumulated to.

Question 4 - Also, could you tell me how frequently do your police force actively check motorist's tyre treads?

Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

With regards Questions 1 and 2 the Police Service of Northern Ireland contacted you with the following clarification: -

- Please note we can only answer questions for injury rtc's.
- Can I confirm what time period the FOI request should be answered for?
- Also when it asked for 'accidents committed in your area' do you mean the whole of Northern Ireland?

You confirmed you were happy with the above and that the information being supplied is for the financial year 2007/08

Answer 1 & 2.

Number of Injury road traffic collisions

Fatal collision	101
Serious collision	844
Slight collision	5376
Total collisions	6321

Number of injury road traffic collisions due to 'defective tyres'

Fatal collision	0
Serious collision	1
Slight collision	1
Total collisions	2

Source: PSNI - Central Statistics Unit

Answer 3 - 219 fixed penalty notices were issued during the time stated. Each ticket carries a penalty of a £60.00 fine and can only be issued for a single offence. If multiple tyres were defective or other defects were found on a vehicle a prosecution file would be prepared.

Answer 4 - Police Officers dealing with the public can check tyre treads of vehicles at any time. It is a function carried out on a daily basis, when dealing with motorists. We also participate in tyre safety week, which is a joint project with the Tyre Industry Council and will take place week commencing 20th October 2008.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that all PSNI replies under Freedom of Information will be released simultaneously into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.