



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00485

Keyword: Finance

Subject: FUNDING OF SAFETY CAMERA SCHEMES

Request and Answer:

Question

Under the funding arrangements effective from April 2007 your Partnership is funded by local authorities in your area and it therefore seems likely that your Partnership has sought to justify requests or offers of funding on the basis of the road safety improvements you believe you achieve.

Under the Freedom of Information Act I ask you to copy to me all correspondence between your Partnership and those organisation fund you that refer to or quantify the benefit your activities provide, in terms of speed reduction (by various parameters), casualty reduction (K, SI and Slight or KSI) and the notional valuations of those reductions.

Answer

The funding arrangements for the Northern Ireland Safety Camera Scheme differ from the arrangements in the rest of the UK. In GB local partnerships exist with local authorities, whereby they are allocated a budget to run their schemes. However in Northern Ireland, our scheme continues to run on the hypothecation model. (self financing), and no relationship exists with local councils. Since the scheme was established in 2003 it has yet to break even with the PSNI picking up the shortfall in the running costs.

Consequently we are unable to supply the information requested. I have therefore determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.psni.police.uk/>

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