



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-00652

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** REPLACEMENT OR RECALIBRATION OF INTOXILISERS

**Request and Answer:**

### Questions 1-7:

1. Given that the limit for drink driving in Northern Ireland seems certain to be lowered, will breathalysers and intoxilisers currently in use have to be either replaced or recalibrated?
2. If so, what would be the estimated cost of replacing or recalibrating all of the equipment?
3. If recalibrated, would each one have to be given a new certificate to prevent tests being subject to legal objections?
4. What would be the earliest date before the process (replacement or recalibration) could be completed? From today's date.
5. If new equipment is needed, would it have to go out to tender?
6. If replacement or recalibration were required, would it mean that the number of tests on the roads could be reduced due to lack of equipment?
7. If there is to be two new limits for drink driving (it is possible newly qualified drivers' would face a lower limit) what would it mean in terms of current equipment?

### Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

The issue of lowering the legal Blood Alcohol Content level is due to be issued for public consultation in the near future. It is not believed to be a certainty that the level will be lowered and it would be premature for the PSNI to make any arrangements to re-configure our current equipment or purchase new equipment. We are aware of the requirement to look at this matter, however legislation will be required to bring in any change and this process will give us sufficient time to address the equipment issue.

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](mailto: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.