



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02038

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: POLICE VEHICLE COLLISIONS

Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information.

I have today decided to:

- disclose records in answer to question 3 in full, and
- disclose records answer to question 1 subject to the deletion of information pursuant to the provisions of Section 40 of the Freedom of Information 2000 Act, (the Act).

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

Question 1

For each of the previous three years, including a breakdown for each year, please can you:

Give details for each incident – including:

- (i) Time and date of the incident
- (ii) Age of the victim
- (iii) Injuries the victim sustained or whether they died
- (iv) Whether the police vehicle was responding to an emergency call
- (v) Whether the vehicle had sirens and blue lights on.

Answer

Please see attached document below which has been subject to the deletion of information pursuant to the provisions of section 40(2)(a) and (b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, by virtue of Section 40(3)(a)(i) of the Act. The ages of the victims have been deleted as this personal data relating to those individuals and the release of this information would be unfair to them.

Question 2

Specify the amount of compensation paid out, if any, to the victim or their family.

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.

Most claims for compensation in the circumstances requested would be dealt with by the PSNI's insurance company. The PSNI may hold some of this information, where the insurance company has provided the PSNI with same. In relation to the collisions relevant to this request, either 3rd party cases have yet to be settled, or Police were not considered to be at fault.

Question 3

State whether the officer or officers involved faced any disciplinary procedures, or criminal investigation – if so, please give details.

Answer

Please see attached document below.

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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk/

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

Number of Persons Killed or Seriously injured in Collision With a Police Vehicle in 2006 to 2008

| Year | Date | Time | Age of Victim(s) | Injuries Sustained | Emergency Call | Blue Lights | Compensation | Disciplinary Procedures | Criminal Investigation |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2006 | 11/07/2006 | 09:55 | 22 | Fatal | No | No | | Yes* | |
| 2007 | Nil | | | | | | | | |
| 2008 | 06/06/2008 | 01:55 | [REDACTED] | Leg Injuries | No | Yes, blue lights | | Yes** | Yes |
| | | | | Bruising | | | | | |

*Accident on 11.7.06 was referred to the Police Ombudsman and their investigation has not as yet concluded. No papers are held by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department in relation to this incident.

**Accident on 6.6.08 was referred to the Police Ombudsman who conducted a criminal and disciplinary investigation. The papers were referred to the Public Prosecution Service who directed no prosecution of any police officer. No police officer was disciplined as a consequence of this incident.

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