



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02001

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS - CASTLEDERG / EDENDERRY

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 questions 1 and 2 in full; and
- fully exempt records in answer to question 3 pursuant to the provisions of section 21 of the Freedom of Information 2000 (the Act).

Section 21- Information Accessible by other Means, is a Class Based and Absolute exemption, so no public interest test is required.

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

The amount of accidents that have occurred on this particular stretch of road for the last 36 months?

Answer

In total 13 occurrences were found on the Scraghy / Learmore / Aghamore Road, Castlederg, the earliest being 8/6/2007.

Question 2

The cause of these road traffic accidents?

Answer

The only collision occurrence that refers to oil on the road is that collision involving your client. The others are down to different factors and do not involve oil.

The above searches will only show results for those occurrences that have been recorded fully. There may well be incidents that have been reported to Police, for example, as 'information only'. These incidents may well not appear due to a number of factors and therefore the above results cannot be guaranteed as the full picture. The only way to guarantee these results is to go through each occurrence manually, which would take this request over the appropriate fees limit.

Question 3

Provision of the police report in relation to this particular case and also in relation to this general query.

Answer

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 it has been decided to refuse access to the information you have requested. Section 21 of the Act provides that information, which is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means, is exempt information.

The information you have requested is available upon application in writing to:

OCMT
Waterside PSNI Station
51a Richill Park Waterside
Londonderry
BT 47 5QZ

Please give details as follows:

Parties involved, date, time, the investigating officers name and the command and control number if known. There is a fee of £79.82 for full report and £28.13 for insurance details only. Cheques made payable to PSNI. 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 letter.

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.psni.police.uk

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