



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2010-01430

**Keyword:** Road Policing

**Subject:** Road Traffic Collisions at Annadale Embankment

### Request and Answer:

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

### Question

Details of all accidents recorded/reported to PSNI with time & date along the stretch of road called the Annadale Embankment from its junction with the Ormeau Road passed the Dunnes Store, to its junction with the Kings Bridge. The number of these accidents that were investigated by PSNI & reported for prosecution/caution or no Police action. The time period for this information is over 3 years commencing 1st May 2007 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

### Answer

Please find attached document outlining the collision history of reported injury road traffic collisions on Annadale Embankment between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2010.

Details of **all** accidents, (Road Traffic Collisions) are not recorded, only details of **injury** collisions. Therefore I have determined that some of the information you have requested access to is not held by the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

The date format in which the information is recorded is 01 April 2007 - 31 March 2010, therefore this is the date format in which the PSNI is obliged under the Act to supply the information.

The day and month of each collision has been deleted pursuant to the provisions of Section 40(2)(a) and (b) of the Freedom of Information 2000 by virtue of Section 40(3)(a)(i) of the Act, – Personal Information.

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.

To provide the date and time of each collision would amount to releasing personal information relating to individuals involved in the collisions, ie that the individual was involved in a collision at a particular date place and time. Where injuries occurred and where prosecutions arose from the collisions, then this would be sensitive personal information. It would be possible to establish the identities of these individuals by researching hospital records, court records or the records of vehicle recovery or repair companies. Without having consulted the individuals concerned, it would be fair to assume that consent would not be forthcoming for release of their details. In the case of sensitive personal information no further consideration is necessary and in the remainder of cases it would be unfair to the individuals to release their information into the public domain without their specific consent and would therefore amount to a breach of principle 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998. This has been addressed by redacting the day and month from the date of the incidents.

Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act is a class based and absolute exemption under these circumstances, therefore a Harm Test and Public Interest Test are not necessary.

Records indicate that two of the collisions have resulted in individuals being reported to the Public Prosecution Service with a view to prosecution. Final decisions on prosecution rest with the Public Prosecution Service.

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](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 @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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

COLLISION HISTORY OF REPORTED INJURY ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

ON

ANNADALE EMBANKMENT, BELFAST

(BETWEEN THE ORMEAU ROAD AND KING'S BRIDGE JUNCTIONS)

ACCOUNTING PERIOD 1 APRIL 2007 – 31 MARCH 2010

FATAL COLLISIONS	SERIOUS COLLISIONS	SLIGHT COLLISIONS	ALL COLLISIONS
0	1	6	7

KILLED	SERIOUSLY INJURED	SLIGHTLY INJURED	ALL CASUALTIES
0	1	13	14

	Date	Time	Severity
	2007	2235	Slight Injury Collision
	2007	1430	Slight Injury Collision
	2007	1318	Slight Injury Collision
	2008	0840	Slight Injury Collision
	2009	1635	Slight Injury Collision
s.F40	2009	1710	Serious Injury Collision
s.F40(2)	2010	0950	Slight Injury Collision

- s.F40(2)
- s.F40(2)(a)
- s.F40(2)(b)
- s.F40(3)(a)
- s.F40(3)(ai)

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THESE DO NOT INCLUDE COLLISIONS AT THE ABOVE JUNCTIONS

DUE TO ONGOING VALIDATION, THIS INFORMATION MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Source: Central Statistics Unit, Police Service of Northern Ireland, Lisnasharragh