



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-00153

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Drink Driving and Breath Testing

Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information and the answers to your questions are as follows:

Question 1

Please state how many motorists were caught drink-driving during the 2008 calendar year? If possible, can this be broken down into (1) districts (2) areas?

Question 2

Please state how many motorists were caught drink-driving during the 2009 calendar year? If possible, can this be broken down into (1) districts (2) areas?

Answer

Please see tables below – The figures relate to any arrests for drink driving offences.

RESULTS BY DISTRICT			
2008		2009	
District	Count	District	Count
A	364	A	412
B	407	B	461
C	598	C	572
D	437	D	514
E	857	E	685
F	712	F	641
G	419	G	434
H	381	H	459
TOTAL	4175	TOTAL	4178

RESULTS BY DCU

2008		2009	
DCU	Count	DCU	Count
ANTRIM	138	ANTRIM	121
NEWTOWNARDS	134	NEWTOWNARDS	125
ARMAGH	176	ARMAGH	128
BANBRIDGE	83	BANBRIDGE	101
BELFAST EAST	132	BELFAST EAST	178
BELFAST NORTH	218	BELFAST NORTH	219
BELFAST SOUTH	275	BELFAST SOUTH	283
BELFAST WEST	146	BELFAST WEST	193
BALLYMENA	118	BALLYMENA	175
BALLYMONEY	40	BALLYMONEY	39
CARRICKFERGUS	20	CARRICKFERGUS	41
COLERAINE	186	COLERAINE	167
COOKSTOWN	98	COOKSTOWN	91
CRAIGAVON	237	CRAIGAVON	223
CASTLEREAGH	107	CASTLEREAGH	104
DUNGANNON & SOUTH TYRONE	204	DUNGANNON & SOUTH TYRONE	211
DOWNPATRICK	183	DOWNPATRICK	189
FERMANAGH	226	FERMANAGH	213
FOYLE	181	FOYLE	171
LARNE	17	LARNE	40
LIMAVADY	74	LIMAVADY	84
LISBURN	208	LISBURN	238
MAGHERAFELT	82	MAGHERAFELT	96
MOYLE	20	MOYLE	38
NEWTOWNABBAY	71	NEWTOWNABBAY	114
NORTH DOWN	174	NORTH DOWN	154
NEWRY & MOURNE	361	NEWRY & MOURNE	233
OMAGH	184	OMAGH	126
STRABANE	82	STRABANE	83
TOTAL	4175	TOTAL	4178

Question 3

Please state the 10 highest breath-test readings recorded during 2008. In each instance, please indicate the date of the incident, the location where it was detected, and the actual reading.

Question 4

Please state the 10 highest breath-test readings recorded during 2009. In each instance, please indicate the date of the incident, the location where it was detected, and the actual reading.

Answer

Please see tables below:

Libis Data – 2008 Top Ten Readings

Procedure Date	Reading	Station
12/04/2008	178	Cookstown Antrim
08/05/2008	174	Road
20/08/2008	168	Limavady
15/04/2008	172	Downpatrick Antrim
04/04/2008	163	Road
22/09/2008	160	Ballymena
05/05/2008	158	Bangor
13/03/2008	162	Magherafelt
12/10/2008	154	Newry
27/01/2008	148	Grosvenor Road

Libis Data – 2009 Top Ten Readings

Procedure Date	Reading	Station
16/05/2009	166	Enniskillen Musgrave
01/02/2009	163	Street
22/07/2009	163	Omagh
11/07/2009	159	Downpatrick
16/06/2009	162	Downpatrick
22/07/2009	159	Lisburn
08/07/2009	163	Bangor
02/07/2009	158	Enniskillen
29/06/2009	159	Lurgan
01/03/2009	157	Newry

Question 5

Please state how many deaths occurred from accidents involving alcohol during 2008?

Question 6

Please state how many people were seriously injured in accidents involving alcohol during 2008?

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 in questions 5 & 6. 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 can be obtained from Table 9 in the 2008 Annual Report on the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme. To access this information from our Publication Scheme please visit our website at http://www.psni.police.uk/2008_annual_report.pdf. It should be noted that these figures relate to accidents attributable to both alcohol/drugs.

Question 7

Please state how many deaths occurred from accidents involving alcohol during 2009?

Question 8

Please state how many people were seriously injured in accidents involving alcohol during 2009?

Answer

PSNI's Central Statistics Branch is unable to provide figures relating to accidents involving alcohol specifically as we attribute collisions to alcohol/drugs.

Full 2009 data is currently unavailable however, please see figures below for January to October 2009.

Number of reported injury road traffic collision fatalities attributed to alcohol/drugs Jan - Oct 2009*

	Killed
Alcohol or drugs - driver/rider	15
Alcohol or drugs - pedestrian	5
Alcohol or drugs - passenger	0
Total	20

Number of reported injury road traffic collision casualties seriously injured attributed to alcohol/drugs Jan - Oct 2009*

	Seriously injured
Alcohol or drugs - driver/rider	108
Alcohol or drugs - pedestrian	19
Alcohol or drugs - passenger	1
Total	128

*Figures are provisional and subject to amendment

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.psnipolice.uk

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