



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01213

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Questions About Pedestrians Issued With Fixed Penalty Tickets

Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) has now completed its search for the information you requested and the answers to your questions are as follows.

Question 1

How many pedestrians have been issued with fixed penalty notices in the last five years in 1) Northern Ireland 2) Dungannon 3) Cookstown?

Question 2

Please state what these offences were, and how many were issued for each offence?

Question 3

Please state how much money in total pedestrians have been fined in the last five years, with a break down year by year, in 1) Northern Ireland 2) Dungannon and 3) Cookstown?

Question 4

Please state how many of these pedestrians did not pay for the fine, and as a result was imprisoned or a larger fine was imposed in 1) Northern Ireland 2) Dungannon and 3) Cookstown?

Question 5

Please state how many motor cyclists have been issued with fixed penalty notices in the last five years in 1) Northern Ireland 2) Dungannon and 3) Cookstown

Question 6

Please state what these offences were, and how many were issued for each offence?

Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

The PSNI Fixed Penalty Processing Centre (FPPC) advised that the systems used in the centre are unable to be interrogated to such a level that would enable them to provide offences by location and

offences by vehicle type. For this reason they would be required to manually collate information with regard to any offences occurring in Dungannon or Cookstown and the number of motor cyclists being issued with fixed penalty notices. Allowing approximately 30 seconds per offence would amount to a total time in excess of 6000 hours and because of this it is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the “appropriate costs limit” under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland have also considered whether we can be of any assistance in terms of helping you refine your request to bring it under the cost limit however as the number of offences are in the hundreds for each year this would be impossible even for a single year.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

Section 16 Duty to provide Advice and Assistance

For your information in relation to questions 3 and 4 which relates to fines paid I can advise that the PSNI would not hold this information and the Public Prosecution Service may be best placed to assist as Laganside Court receive all payments for fines.

Although excess cost removes the service’s obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this will be helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

In the last 5 years in Northern Ireland the PSNI FPPC have advised that 1177 pedestrians have been issued with fixed penalty notices by the PSNI.

The breakdown of these offences is illustrated in the table below.

DATES	OFFENCES		
	JAYWALKING	PEDESTRIAN ON MOTORWAY	PEDESTRIAN REMAINING ON ZEBRA CROSSING FOR LONGER THAN NECESSARY
01/04/2005 – 31/03/2006	454	7	2
01/04/2006 – 31/03/2007	376	13	-
01/04/2007 – 31/03/2008	83	32	-
01/04/2008 – 31/03/2009	71	16	1
01/04/2009 – 31/03/2010	104	18	-

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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.