



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01272

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Speeding Fines Issued For Speeding Buses

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

Could you please tell me how many speeding fines have been issued for speeding buses.

Question

I would like the information broken down year by year for four years up to the most recent data you have.

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) have advised that computer systems used within the PSNI cannot be interrogated to break down offences by vehicle type and to provide a response to your request would require a manual checking of every offence to determine the vehicle type. Allowing approximately 30 seconds per offence this would take approximately 3742 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 questions 1 and 2 have therefore been closed.

Question

Could you also tell me what the typical fine is for speeding.

Answer

FPPC has advised that the 'typical' fine for a speeding offence is 3 penalty points and £60.00.

However if for any reason the matter is taken to court the magistrate can enforce anything from 6 penalty points and £1000.00 fine.

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.