



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-02662

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Speeding Tickets issued in 2009 - 2011

Request and Answer:

Question

I am interested in finding out information in relation to the increase in speeding tickets issued by the PSNI.

Could you please provide me with a list of the number of speeding tickets issued in 2009, 2010 and 2011 (to date) along roads in the following areas;

Ballymoney
Ballymena
Coleraine
Portrush
Portstewart
Limavady

Please provide figures for each of these areas separately along with the roads in which the speeding was detected.

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.

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.

I have contacted Roads Policing in an attempt to retrieve the information relative to your request. However the speeding detections in the areas you have requested are made by both police officers and the SCS camera vans. The detections made by the Safety Camera Scheme (SCS) camera vans can be easier located as they use a specific site code for each location. However the detections made by officers at the roadside, are not subject to a naming convention and the same location/road may have a number of descriptions used. Within each of the towns requested they could have 40 -50

roads where enforcement could legitimately be carried out. In addition to this there will be roads that transit between 2 policing areas thus making it impossible to state with certainty in the retrieval of the information the precise area of where the detection took place. To answer the request fully a manual check of the entire fixed penalty notices issued would have to be completed and it is therefore estimated that the total time to extract the information would take an estimated 30 hours.

It may be of assistance to your request that a previous response was provided by our office on the subject of speeding tickets issued in the 8 Districts from 2007 – 31 March 2010. This information will include G and H Districts, which are the Districts your requested areas are part of. This information is available from the PSNI website and can be accessed using the following link:

http://www.psni.police.uk/excess_speed.pdf

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.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit. It may be possible for Roads Policing to provide the number of detections made in each area by the SCS camera vans within the cost limit.

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

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.psni.police.uk

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