



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-02629

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Excess Speed Detections

Request and Answer:

Question 1

The information sought in questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 relates to detections made at the 62 designated sites at which speed camera vans are deployed in Northern Ireland as well as the four fixed speed cameras in operation, average speed SPECs system and six red light running cameras.

How many people have been detected across Northern Ireland for excess speed since the launch of the Safety Camera Scheme on July 1 2003 until present?

Please provide an annual breakdown of figures for each area in which the speed detection devices - fixed and mobile - are used.

Question 2

How much revenue has been generated from fixed penalty notices issued as a result of excess speed across Northern Ireland since the launch of the Safety Camera Scheme on July 1 2003 until present?

Please detail the total revenue generated from each designated 'speed hotspot' throughout Northern Ireland for this period?

Please provide an annual breakdown of the revenue generated for the whole of Northern Ireland as a result of fixed penalty notices from July 1 2003 until present?

Question 3

How many detections have there been since July 1 2003 as a result of the use of red light running cameras?

How much revenue in total has this generated through fixed penalty notices?

Question 4

Please detail the number of people referred to the Public Prosecution Service for excessive speed / non-payment of fixed penalty notices from July 1 2003 until present following detection via speed cameras and red light running cameras?

Question 5

Please detail the highest recorded speed on Northern Ireland's roads from July 1 2003. When and where was this recorded?

Question 6

How many people have been killed on Northern Ireland's roads as a result of road traffic collisions since 2003? Please provided annual breakdown of figures.

Question 7

How many people have sustained serious injuries on Northern Ireland's roads as a result of road traffic collisions since July 1 2003. Please provide annual breakdown of figures.

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.

In an attempt to respond to your request I contacted Roads Policing and Statistics Branch who hold the information centrally. However, to retrieve the response to question 1 for detections in 2012 Statistics Branch need to have the files (which run into the tens of thousands) downloaded, validated and checked. The syntax needs to be written for 2012 to allow the location, type of camera and each entry to be assigned to a DCU. These currently exist in the code but needs to be updated as the Star Traq software does not do this automatically. Once the syntax has been written it is estimated that it would take 8 hours to complete the datafile for the first six months of 2012 alone. It is therefore estimated that the total time required would be 26 hours which would take well in excess of time permitted under legislation (18 hours).

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 however the nature and structure of the information unfortunately makes this impossible.

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.

Although excess costs removes the PSNI's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, I have provided below the information which was retrieved before it realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful but it does not affect our legal right to rely on fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Answer 1

Please find the table below which shows detections made by area for the NI Road Safety Camera Partnership from July 2003 when the scheme was introduced. Please note these figures are provisional and subject to amendment and some areas are not comparable year to year as police boundary areas will have changed. These figures have not taken account of those detections which are subsequently cancelled, for example, if the camera has been triggered by an emergency service vehicle.

Detections for 2012 have not yet been analysed in detail but the total number of detections for January-June was 26,171.

	Jul-Dec 2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Jan- Jun 2010	Jul- Dec 2010	2011
Antrim DCU							87	142	90	312
Armagh DCU	89	67	64	240	339	232	346	208	166	770
Ballymena DCU	184	164	83	73	147	132	539	166	492	1201
Ballymoney DCU	11	37	19	247	933	645	1445	669	609	2498
Banbridge DCU	727	1449	2264	1792	1053	2696	4111	233	657	936
Carrickfergus DCU	97	55	12	35	12	19	54	115	1323	2060
Castlereagh DCU	2803	3709	2294	2790	2467	2096	2227	814	2919	5752
Coleraine DCU	10	68	111	116	91	234	721	293	1292	1810
Cookstown DCU	5	51	222	220	273	125	278	197	730	1020
Craigavon DCU	21	59	17	146	16	0	164	60	273	509
Down DCU	19	278	273	67	162	8	18	9	93	425
Dungannon DCU	106	267	476	1107	746	480	961	261	102	194
East Belfast DCU	1310	2459	1241	634	540	558	599	122	1184	3200
Fermanagh DCU	97	81	100	21	82	150	616	175	828	1208
Foyle DCU	127	632	577	327	331	344	1672	1304	5072	6895
Larne DCU	0	0	0	37	23	36	487	257	990	1138
Limavady DCU	13	18	154	82	676	806	615	264	817	1293
Lisburn DCU	2	3	0	0	38	1575	1779	48	451	1674
Magherafelt DCU	75	221	385	248	397	638	1181	1258	1730	1983
Moyle DCU	40	49	11	11	24	8	434	84	646	959
Newry & Mourne DCU	297	1815	1368	1519	1442	2509	2301	1686	632	1015
Newtownabbey DCU	6	7	1	4	1	0	14	12	356	1236
Newtownards DCU	119	168	213	170	154	82	413	147	505	1084
North Belfast DCU	458	1648	995	773	729	735	305	178	3471	3574
North Down DCU	312	1632	854	1048	1095	330	422	172	784	1336
Omagh DCU	112	451	514	141	657	601	858	81	56	149
South Belfast DCU	113	386	323	282	172	89	263	12	374	2055
Strabane DCU							101	51	239	202
West Belfast DCU	100	408	285	195	103	79	32	38	133	825
TOTAL	7253	16182	12856	12325	12703	15207	23043	9056	27014	47313

The table below provides a breakdown of the total detections by camera type. All figures included are provisional and subject to amendment. Detections which are subsequently cancelled have not yet been removed.

	Jul-Dec 2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Jan- Jun 2010	Jul- Dec 2010	2011	Jan- Jun 2012
Fixed Antrim Rd	184	1108	821	686	609	698	304	178	3382	1470	2292
Fixed Springfield Rd	91	293	193	97	63	75	32	38	128	514	855
Fixed Saintfield Rd	2444	2483	1440	1909	1944	1570	1602	619	1846	3479	2264
Fixed Upper N'ards Rd	1176	1835	912	368	513	539	542	119	646	2219	814
SPECS	0	0	0	5	24	13	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile	3358	10463	9490	9260	9550	12312	20563	8102	21012	39631	19946

Please note that the NI Road Safety Camera Partnership changed the software that provides the camera interface between the detections in the vans and the databases to issue tickets in June / July 2010 and this is why the figures for 2010 have been presented in the tables as such.

Answer 2

I have determined that PSNI does not hold the information to which you seek access. All the revenue from the fixed penalty notices is collected by the N Ireland Court Service. This information is therefore available from the N Ireland Court Service and a request can be made to their Freedom of Information office. I have provided a link to the website:

<http://www.courtsni.gov.uk/en-GB/AboutUs/Freedom%20of%20Information/Pages/default.aspx>

Answer 3

Please find in the table below the number of detections for the NI Road Safety Partnership Red Light Running Cameras 2007-2011

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Nelson Street, Belfast	23	106	91	168	47
Castle Street, Belfast	2	58	72	53	23
Middlepath Street, Belfast	45	199	279	235	132
York Street, Belfast	21	55	30	34	60
Millfield, Belfast	72	276	206	152	75
Glenshane Road, Foyle	0	63	164	158	31
Total Detections	163	757	842	800	368

Answer 4

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Answer 5

The highest recorded speed in recent years by the NI Road Safety Camera Partnership was 112mph in July 2010 on Glenshane Road, Maghera.

Answer 6 and 7

The statistics you requested is available from the PSNI website and can be accessed using the following link:

http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/updates_road_traffic_statistics.htm

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.