



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-03346

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Van Research

Request and Answer:

Question

I am currently undertaking a Master Research (MSc) on the behaviour and attitudes of van drivers for the University of Huddersfield.

I have already received data from VOSA and the DTi regarding overloading / prosecutions of light goods users over the past 3-5 years.

I am also interested in the policies role in van / LCV enforcement in the areas of speeds / driver licensing and tachographs.

Do you have data (raw or otherwise) on the number of van drivers / owners you have stopped and the offence, and the outcome, particularly in the areas highlighted above?

As I require only statistical data, my request I believe, does not contravene any data protection issues.

As I am not seeking personal data, just statistical, can I approach the Traffic Division directly?

Does your constabulary have "an expert" in commercial vehicle legislation/compliance specifically for the safe and legal operation of vans/light commercial vehicles?

Have you undertaken any specific operations targeting the light commercial vehicle sector? If so, what were they and do you have any results?

Of course, if the data is not readily available but would require further research I am more than happy to help.

Clarification

Perhaps I can clarify my request further which may help :

For the financial years 2010-2011 please provide:

1. Number of driving offences for vans/LGV (light goods vehicles)
 - a) type of offence

- b) if possible broken down to show offences committed by Vans/LGV
- c) outcomes eg fines

2. Number of Fixed Penalty Notices for same period given to Vans/LGVs

- a) if possible, reason for stops eg speeding, driving without due care, overloading and attention

3. Do you carry out specific operations to stop and search Vans/LGVs

- a) who would carry out such operations

Hope this is more manageable.

Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided.

The PSNI do not hold any information specific to light goods vehicles (LGV). There are no offences in statute that apply only to LGVs that could be collated.

Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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.