



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-05953

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Speeding Tickets, Speed Signage And Speed Limits In Lisburn

Request and Answer:

Question 1

What are the circumstances where a speeding ticket issued is not valid and an appeal lodged would be successful?

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

It is impossible to determine the circumstances relating to each speeding detection that has been successfully appealed. Most contested cases are referred to court for a District Judge to adjudicate and police do not record the reasons why an appeal might be successful. In a smaller number of cases, the driver may be eligible to claim a "statutory exemption" from prosecution, eg: an emergency service driver, on duty and responding to a call for assistance.

Question 2

In the last 3 years how many speeding tickets have been issued on vehicles driving on the Kirkwoods Road Lisburn?

Answer

See attached spreadsheet. Please note the Kirkwoods Road was adopted as a Community Concern site under the auspices of the NI Road Safety Partnership and is subject to camera enforcement.

Question 3

What is the speed limit on Kirkwoods Road Lisburn?

Answer

The Kirkwoods Road is subject to a 30mph speed limit.

Question 4

How many speed limit signs are there on Kirkwoods Road Lisburn and when were they erected?

Answer

Information relating to speed limit signs, their number and date of erection is not held by police. This is information that may be sought from DRD Transport NI. However in relation to 30mph limits,

Articles 36 and 37 of the Road Traffic Regulation (NI) Order 1997 apply:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1997/276/article/36>. This legislation basically states that the presence of street lights generally means there is 30mph limit unless otherwise specified. Rule 124 of the Highway Code applies.

Question 5

In the last 3 years how many speeding tickets have been issued on vehicles driving on the Derriaghy Road, Lisburn?

Answer

See attached spreadsheet at the end of this correspondence.

Question 6

What is the speed limit on Derriaghy Road, Lisburn?

Answer

The Derriaghy Road, Lisburn is subject to a 50mph limit.

Question 7

How many speed limit signs are there on Derriaghy Road , Lisburn and when were they erected?

Answer

Information relating to speed limit signs, their number and date of erection is not held by police. This is information that may be sought from DRD Transport NI.

Question 8

When a PSNI staff member is sitting in an unmarked vehicle that is stationary and recording vehicle speeds what PSNI policy and procedures are appropriate?

Answer

The PSNI adhere to the ACPO principles and guidance relating to speed enforcement which can be found at:

<http://www.acpo.police.uk/documents/uniformed/2011/201112UOBAAOpUseSRLODTv11.pdf>

Question 9

When a PSNI staff member is sitting in an unmarked vehicle that is stationary and recording vehicle speeds what toilet and refreshment facilities do they use?

Answer

PSNI Officers engaged on speed enforcement duties are permitted to attend the nearest police station or other location to avail of refreshment or toilet facilities.

Question 10

When a PSNI staff member is sitting in a vehicle that is stationary and recording vehicle speeds does the staff member require a high visibility jacket?

Answer

Police Officers are not required to wear their high visibility jackets whilst inside a vehicle.

Question 11

Please provide job profile and pay scale of staff member described in Q 8, 9 and 10.

Answer

The Safety Camera Operators referred to in previous questions are employees of the Resource Group and the job description for this role is attached at the end of this response.

The Safety Camera Operator role is a Support Grade Band 1 (SGB1) and is analogous to an Admin

Officer (AO) pay scale the details of which are provided below,
http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/2014-15_pay_scales.pdf

Question12

Are there any speeding cameras on Kirkwood's Road Lisburn?

Answer

There are no fixed speed cameras on Kirkwoods Road, however it is subject to periodic enforcement by the NIRSP camera van as a "Community Concern" site.

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.

Number of fixed penalty notices issued for speeding by PSNI: 2012 - 2014

Road Name	2012	2013	2014
Derrriaghy Road, Lisburn	0	0	1
Kirkwoods Road, Lisburn	28	9	28

Please note:

Figures are provisional and subject to change

Source: PSNI Statistics Branch, Lisnasharragh

Kirkwoods Road, Lisburn was introduced as a Community Concern site by the NI Road Safety Partnership in August 2014. Figures for all detections made by the safety camera are provided below -

Number of speeding detections by Road Safety Partnership

Road Name	2014
Kirkwoods Road, Lisburn	98

Please note:

Figures are provisional and subject to change

Source: NI Road Safety Partnership Statistician

JOB DESCRIPTION

POST: Safety Camera Operator
GRADE: SGB1
DEPARTMENT Operational Support Department
BRANCH: Road Policing Development

Date: January 2010

1. Organisational Position

1.1 The post holder reports to the Sergeant, Road Policing.

2. Purpose and Objectives

2.1 The main purpose of the role is to provide high visibility and static presence on roads to operate traffic speed camera and make detection decisions. The role also alleviates and supports the police operation in the detection of speed offences and the Killed and Seriously Injured [KSI] reduction strategy.

3.0 Main Activities

- To operate speed detection cameras on selected sites and routes in accordance with targeted enforcement schedules.
- To identify speeding vehicles and capture relevant evidence on film.
- To retrieve and log processed camera film and accompanying data records and forward/deliver these to the Fixed Penalty Processing office, within a stipulated time frame.
- Completion of notebook, evidential forms/labels, reports, statements of evidence and correspondence as directed.
- Calibration of speed camera.
- Undertake the first line maintenance and problem solving for all equipment used, including vehicle maintenance.
- Attend court to give evidence in contested cases.

4. Knowledge and Skills

- 4.1 The minimum level of formal qualifications required for the role would be 2 GCSEs.
- 4.2 With the above qualifications 1 month experience would be required to perform the role effectively.
- 4.3 If the post is recruited directly the role holder would be expected to possess a minimum of 2 GCSE's and 1 month working experience in a coordination or administrative type role.
- 4.4 The type of knowledge and skills commonly required for the role include the following:
- Full clean driving licence.
 - Practical knowledge in the use of Microsoft office and computer databases.
 - Good level of experience and skills in general administration including records maintenance.

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Computer and electronic equipment knowledge.
- Have the ability to successfully pass a PSNI driving test.
- An understanding of Road Traffic legislation [speed limits and presentation of evidence].
- Knowledge of the laws of evidence and court procedures.

5. Contacts and Communication

5.1 Within the Organisation

The role holder is required to communicate on a daily basis with colleagues within the organisation. They will be expected to provide basic advice and guidance in relation to the processing of Road traffic prosecution files. The role holder will provide feedback on the correct operation of equipment and fault finding . The role holder will have regular contact with staff at AO level in the admin support unit of road policing regarding the processing of detections and recording of evidence as per service regulations. The role holder needs to be aware of the approach to be applied and consistency of process. Communication will be mostly at Constable and Admin Officer level mainly in the Road Policing Unit. There will also be liaison with the Safety Camera Scheme Manager in connection with the day to day running of the scheme. There is little or no related contact with the Senior Management Team.

5.2 With other Government Organisations

This type of communication will take place on an occasional basis. The role holder will be required to liaise with administrative grades within the Department of Road Development, for example regarding a temporary road work or a new site on the motorway. The role holder will be taken out to be trained in Health and Safety. The evidence provided by the Safety Camera Operator is factual therefore only rarely is the role holder required to provide details direct to the Court. There will be no interaction with senior grades in these organisations.

5.3 With External Organisations

The role holder will not have any contact with people outside of the organisation.

6. Problem Solving

6.1 Many of the problems faced by the role holder will be similar in nature and can be resolved by referring to guidelines and precedent. The role holder is required to appropriately resolve problems which arise in the allocation of the new sites and incorrect site numbers and location description. There may be problems regarding parking issues at certain sites. The role holder will have to deal with problems with faulty equipment.

7. Decision Making

7.1 *Own Decisions*

The role holder will be required to prioritise their workload and make decisions regarding the identification of speeding vehicles and capture relevant evidence on film. Decisions may also be made regarding an alternative site selection if deployment of the vehicle is not possible at a detailed site. The role holder may be required to make decisions regarding a community concern site for example taking consideration of the school times for example the role holder will lower the speed threshold and make a note of the reason for doing so.

7.2 *Informing and Advising Others*

A significant part of the role is to provide information and basic advice to individuals seeking assistance in relation to providing feedback to line management. For example providing feedback on community concern sites and providing advice by email in respect of traffic management sites with the sites covered and detail regarding detections. The role holder will also provide a return to line management which may be provided to the District Policing Partnership meetings.

8. Autonomy

- 8.1 The role holder's duties are clearly defined by the parameters of Safety Camera Scheme Handbook and the Scheme website is available via the intranet. The role holder will use procedural guides, however, the role holder will work with a minimum level of supervision, guidance is available from senior officers and advisers when required.

9. Management of Resources

9.1 Financial

The post holder has no responsibility for management of financial resources, and is accountable for the effective use of their own time and resources.

9.2 Leadership and Team working

The role holder works as part of a team as the camera operator is working alone and so needs the support of police officers to perform their daily duty. Team work with other members working alternative shifts as required, so that there is flexibility of working and leave allocation.

9.3 Nature of Management

The post holder has no management responsibility and is generally responsible for their own work.

10. Impact

- 10.1 The role holder is an important role, which aims to reduce the number and severity of Road Traffic Collisions in Northern Ireland, through targeted deployment at collision hotspots. The Scheme also forms part of the Northern Ireland Road Safety Strategy, the overall aim of which is to reduce the number of road deaths. Mobile safety cameras provide a valuable method of preventing, detecting and enforcing speed offences which are one of the main causes of Road traffic collisions. The role holder's role encourages changed driver behaviour and is also proven to make a significant contribution to improving road safety for all road users. Community concern sites which are allocated as a result of local complaints at DPP meetings, increase public confidence in the PSNI when they can see the Safety Camera vehicle deploying to address the problem. The camera operator's role has a significant long term impact on the PSNI as it not only contributes to the strategic aim of reducing the number and severity of Road traffic collisions, but also alleviates and supports the police role.