

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2021-00428

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Fines for unauthorised vehicle modifications in 2020

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Request 1

I would like to request the total number of people fined for driving with unauthorised vehicle modifications within the police force's area of responsibility in the last year (2020) in relation to the following four offences?

a) Exhausts - The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, Regulation 54 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1986/1078/regulation/54/made>

b) Lights - The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989, Regulation 11 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1989/1796/regulation/11/made>

c) License Plate - The Road Vehicles (Display of Registration Marks) Regulations 2001, Regulations 5 & 6 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2001/561/contents>

d) Tinted Windows - The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986, Regulation 32, Paragraph 10 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1986/1078/regulation/32/made>

Answers to Request 1a- 1d

Please see below a table outlining the total number of fixed penalty notices ('FPNs') issued for the following four offences; Exhausts, Lights, License Plate and Tinted Windows.

Please note that all figures are provisional and subject to change.

	Number of FPNs issued
Exhausts	
Defective exhaust and silencer system	139
Lights	
Allow unlighted vehicle to remain at rest on a road	2
Defective light	410
Failing to have warning beacon fitted	7
Failure to Have Obligatory Lamp or Reflector or Rear Marking	5
Fitting lamp capable of showing red light to front	3
No lights on pedal cycle	1
No lights on projecting load	2
No side marker lamps on projecting load	1
Unlawful use of a lamp	88
Using vehicle when lamp not lit and unobscured	7
Total	526
License plate	
Failing to Display Trade Plates	9
Incorrect form of registration mark	894
Misuse of Trade Plates	8
No Number Plate	319
Obscured Number Plate	71
Total	1301
Tinted windows	
Driver does not have Full View of Road and Traffic Ahead	56
Using a Vehicle With Windows With Insufficient Transmission of Light	210
Total	266

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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.psnipolice.uk

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