



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-01727

Keyword: Road Policing

Subject: Drivers Issued a Penalty for Using a Mobile Phone/Other Devices

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we 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 following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

The total number of drivers caught (issued a penalty) using a mobile phone while driving, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 to date.

Answer

PSNI detections for using a mobile phone whilst driving - 1st January 2019 - 30th April 2022:

	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	293	269	246	142
February	364	320	216	117
March	358	291	199	153
April	309	195	234	98
May	336	331	246	N/A
June	264	374	238	N/A
July	345	385	186	N/A
August	341	331	218	N/A
September	299	318	194	N/A
October	344	285	208	N/A
November	272	217	178	N/A
December	225	150	92	N/A
TOTAL	3,750	3,466	2,455	510*

* Figures available to 30th April 2022 only

* N/A = Not available

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

Request 2

The total number of drivers caught (issued a penalty) using a sat nav or other device (excluding mobile phones) while driving, broken down by month for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 to date

Answer

We cannot provide any data for Request 2 as there isn't any specific offence in relation to sat nav or other devices in Northern Ireland. Any such detections may be classified under other offences such as not having proper control of the vehicle and therefore the figures cannot be provided separately.

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 remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/

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 their 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.