



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-00734

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Road Traffic

Subject: Speeding Offences

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 some information to which your request relates and this is being provided to you. We further consider some information you seek in request numbers 1 and 2 are exempt by virtue of section 22 of FOIA and have detailed our rationale as to why this exemption applies. We have also provided you with links to guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office, which we have followed in responding to your request.

Request 1

The number of speeding offences caught in your area, from the start of January 2019 to the end of January 2023. This includes fixed cameras, and those caught by police.

Answer

Between the 1st January 2019 and 30th November 2022, there were 30,164 speeding detections by the PSNI and 210,204 by the Road Safety Partnership (RSP).

Please note these figures include detections that resulted in a fixed penalty notice issued, speed awareness course completed or a referral for prosecution. Please also note these statistics include detections by mobile speed cameras, fixed cameras and average speed cameras. Figures are provisional and subject to change.

Request 2

The roads where these speeding offences occurred.

Answer

Please see the attached spreadsheet outlining the roads where these speeding offences occurred. The first tab lists detections made by PSNI, the second tab lists detections made by the RSP (please note if a cell is blank this is due to no information being recorded on our system).

In relation to information requested from 30th November 2022 to the end of January 2023. PSNI detections for the 2022 calendar year will be published on 30th March 2023 while the information up to February will be published on the 27th April 2023. The RSP 2022 calendar year data will be published at the end of June 2023 with any additional time period available based on a two month lag thereafter.

Therefore, the following exemption has been applied to information requested from 30th November 2022 to the end of January 2023;

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption/s, as well as the factors the Department considered when deciding where the public interest lies, are listed below:

Section 22 – Information intended for future publication

The full text of exemptions can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk and further guidance on how they operate can be located on the Information Commissioners Office website www.ico.org.uk.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, it has been decided to refuse access to the information you have requested. Under Section 22 (1) of the Act the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) is not obliged to disclose information that is held with a view to its publication at some future date.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption so therefore the PSNI is obliged to carry out a Public Interest Test.

Public Interest Test

Factors Favouring Release

Disclosure would demonstrate PSNI's openness and transparency.

Factors Favouring Retention

The spending of additional funds in order to facilitate this FOI request would not be in the public interest as this information is due to be released in the near future.

Decision

There needs to be a real and valid reason which identifies a tangible benefit to the public from disclosure of information. As the information is intended to be published at a future date, it is reasonable to exempt it as publication is imminent.

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 Corporate Information Manager, Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.police.uk.

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain unhappy about how your request has been handled you have the right to apply in writing to the Information Commissioner, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, at 'Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. There are a number of other platforms you can use to contact the ICO and these can be found on the ICO's website at the following link: [Make a complaint | ICO \(https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/\)](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/).

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.psnipolice.uk

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