



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-01550

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Road Traffic

Subject: Notice of Intended Prosecution Letters

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

How many *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters did you send relating to motorists speeding?

Answer 1

73,586 by Offence Date – notices sent to Registered Keeper.

Request 2

How many *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters did you send (relating to motorists speeding) more than 14 days after the offence occurred?

Answer 2

None as the system does not enable us to send outside a 14 day timeline.

Request 3

In how many instances did you pass the 14-day deadline for *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters (relating to motorists speeding) and decide not to send one altogether?

Answer 3

This information is not recorded – total would be minimal.

Request 4

Which service do you use to send *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters (relating to motorists speeding)? (include all that apply)

- Royal Mail Tracked 24
- Royal Mail Tracked 48
- Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed by 9am
- Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed by 1pm
- Royal Mail Signed for First Class
- Royal Mail Signed for Second Class
- Royal Mail First Class

- Royal Mail Second Class
- Royal Mail Sameday
- Other

Answer 4

Royal Mail signed for First Class – first notices sent to Registered Keepers.

Request 5

For all the *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters you sent (relating to motorists speeding), can you let us know:

- How many were contested (by responding 'Not guilty', or in any other way)?
- Of these, how many were contested specifically because the Notice of Intended Prosecution letter was received more than 14 days after the offence?
- How many of these contested cases went to a court trial?
- How many of the court trials ruled that the fine and driving licence points penalties were upheld/still applied?

Answer 5

- 57 offences contested to date.
- No data provided to NIRSP (Northern Ireland Road Safety Partnership) why an offence is contested.
- 40 offences have been sent to PPS (Public Prosecution Service) for decision.
- NIRSP (Northern Ireland Road Safety Partnership) are not notified of court result.

Request 6

Do you use technology to automate (machines carrying out tasks, instead of humans) the following processes when sending *Notice of Intended Prosecution* letters?

- Drafting letters
- Printing letters
- Putting letters into envelopes

Answer 6

Machines carry out all the above functions with the assistance of manual intervention.

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.psni.police.uk

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