



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 312/2021

Request:

I'd like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

- 1) The total number of motorists caught driving without insurance in your force area broken down by year for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.
- 2) The total number of cars seized for not being insured in your force area broken down by year for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.
- 3) The amount paid by drivers to release seized cars (for not having the correct insurance) in your force area, broken down by year for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.
- 4) The number of cars destroyed after being seized for not having the correct insurance, broken down by year for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.
- 5) The number of cars sold / auctioned after being seized for not having the correct insurance, and the total amount of money made through sales, broken down by year for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to date.

Clarification sought:

For Q1 are you referring to individuals being stopped by an officer for no insurance?

Response from applicant:

I can confirm that for question one we are looking for drivers who have been stopped by an officer for no insurance.

Response:

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

I can confirm that the cost of determining whether any information relative to questions 3, 4 and 5 of this request is or isn't held is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond therefore we are withholding the whole of the requested information since we consider that the Section 12 (2) exemption the Cost of Compliance exceeds the Appropriate Limit applies to it.

Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Dyfed Powys Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact,

OFFICIAL

(b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies. The following exemption has been applied to the whole of the information you have requested:

Section 12(2) – The cost of compliance exceeds the Appropriate Limit

Section 12(2) states: "...Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit."

The cost of determining what information is held, if any, relevant to questions 3, 4 and 5 of your request is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. It is estimated that it would exceed 18 hours (i.e. minimum of **335.25 hours**) to comply with your request. The regulations can be located @ www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2004/20043244.htm

The Freedom of Information Department has been advised that the information in respect of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format. Therefore, in order to establish what information, if any, is held in relation to questions 3, 4 and 5 of this request would require the individual interrogation of all car seizure records to ascertain a response to those questions. It has been established that for the period as specified within the request (i.e. 2019 – 2021) there are a total 1,341 records that would require researching. It has been estimated that it would take a minimum of 15 minutes to research a single record for relevance to questions 3, 4 and 5 of your request as outlined above, resulting in the following broken down time estimate.

2019 = 585 records@ 15 minutes per record = 146.25 hours
2020 = 622 records@ 15 minutes per record = 155.50 hours
2021 = (up to 31/03) = 134 records@ 15 minutes per record = 33.50 hours

Total of 335.25 hours to complete task and therefore the whole of the request.

Please note: A response to questions 1 and 2 of your request has been provided at the end of the document and has been provided as a gesture of goodwill and outside of the FOI act.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for the WHOLE of this request under Section 17(5) A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is relying on a claim that section 12 or section 14 applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact. You may wish to refine and resubmit your request so that it reduces the time shown above to fall within the 18 hours, however with due regard to the time estimate provided above it is unlikely that refining your request will fall under the 18 hours as the same method and format will have to be undertaken. Should you require any further advice in relation to this matter please don't hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Unit.

Please also be advised that should the request be refined, it does not remove the Force's right to cite exemptions if relevant.

Although excess cost removes the forces obligations under the Freedom of Information Act to provide any further information, as a gesture of goodwill, I have provided information, relative to questions 1 and 2 of your request which has been easily retrievable and outlined

OFFICIAL

below. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Question 1:

Year	No. individuals stopped by an officer for no insurance
2019	1,078
2020	1,264
2021 (up to 31/05)	388

Question 2:

Year	No. of cars seized for no insurance
2019	585
2020	622
2021 (up to 31/03)	134

(This is a response under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and disclosed on 28/06/21)