

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0029  
Date: 01 February 2022



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

***I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for information regarding speed cameras.***

***Specifically, I would like the following information from within the Greater Glasgow Division, from December 31, 2020, to December 31, 2021, please?***

***A breakdown of the 15 speed camera locations which recorded the most speeding vehicles, with details on the number of vehicles recorded speeding, the designated speed of the road each of these cameras covers and the top speed recorded by each of these cameras***

I have reviewed your request and, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

- (a) states that it holds the information,
- (b) states that it is claiming an exemption,
- (c) specifies the exemption in question and
- (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

The relevant exemptions in this case are:

### **Section 35 (1) (b) – Law Enforcement**

The information requested is exempt, as its disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and apprehension or prosecution of offenders. Release of the information would adversely impact on the operational effectiveness of the Service and compromise any tactical advantage the police may have.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

## **Section 39 (1) – Health, Safety and the Environment**

The information requested is exempt as its disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the physical health or safety of an individual(s).

Disclosure of speed camera locations could risk the detection of these crimes. To explain, in camera operations, camera housings are continuously and visibly present at specific locations but the cameras within these are not necessarily operational at all times. Although the public are aware that cameras may not always be active, details of the periods for which the cameras are active are not in the public domain. Therefore, with speed cameras, their effectiveness in deterring motorists is based on the perception that they may be active at any time. For camera enforcement to be effective in the interests of road safety and the law, there must be the perception that the chance of being detected and recorded is high at all sites.

In addition to this, camera installations have been subject to attack and vandalism to put these out of action. Publication of this data which shows specific camera locations could lead to these sites being targeted. Where such attacks have occurred this has led to cameras being out of commission for several months awaiting repair which has an obvious detrimental effect on road safety and deterrent capability at these sites.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

### **Public Interest Test**

It is accepted that there is a public interest in the disclosure of the information on the basis that it could lead to greater transparency and public debate.

That said however there is also a public interest in disclosing information to the public upon which they can assess whether safety cameras are being used in an effective and fair manner to prevent and detect speeding offences. Any such release would either compromise or significantly weaken police tactics enabling individuals to become aware of operational speed cameras.

It is reasonable to expect Police Scotland to ensure that all information held is managed effectively and where necessary, be cautious as to the level of detail released into the public domain.

Therefore, the need to ensure that the Police can keep the public safe, maintain community confidence and minimise crime are more compelling factors for non-disclosure as providing the information would compromise the effective delivery of operational law enforcement.

However, to be of assistance I have provided a table at the bottom of this letter giving a list of 15 speed cameras excluding their location.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management – Glasgow at [foi@glasgow.scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@glasgow.scotland.pnn.police.uk) quoting the reference number given.

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If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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Location Address	Camera Type	Speeding Offences	Rank	Speed Limit	Highest Speed
Average Speed	Average Speed	1584	1	30	92
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	791	2	30	75
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	532	3	30	75
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	486	4	30	72
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	331	5	30	76
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	288	6	30	91
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	263	7	30	70
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	220	8	30	66
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	202	9	30	60
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	185	10	30	78
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	172	11	30	66
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	165	12	30	78
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	146	13	30	58
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	122	14	30	73
Fixed Speed	Fixed Speed	120	15	30	62

Please Note:

‘Speeding vehicles’ has been defined as ‘offences’ only and excludes emergency services vehicles which were exempt and other camera activations not deemed as offences e.g. those NFA’d as ‘Image Quality’.

Data taken from a live system, which is subject to change and correct as of 18/01/2022

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