

30th August 2023

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 23.010039

Thank you for your request for recorded data held by South Yorkshire Police

Request

Would it be possible to disclose the following information each month between January 2018 and July 1st 2023?

- 1. How many collisions involving e scooters were recorded by your force?**
- 2. How many collisions included only one e scooter with no other vehicles involved in the collision?**
- 3. How many casualties were there in collisions involving e scooters?**
- 4. Of all casualties in collisions involving e scooters – how many were e scooter riders?**
- 5. How many people have been killed in collisions involving e scooters? How many killed were the riders?**
- 6. How many people were seriously injured in collisions involving e scooters? How many were the riders?**
- 7. How many people were slightly injured in collisions involving e scooters? How many were the riders?**

Response

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire 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,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

Section 12(1) – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

I approached an OSU analyst for assistance with your request. They advised the CRASH system which records Collision reports, causalities, severity, type of vehicle and location etc has no provision for E-Scooter Vehicle Type in the present version.

The closest would be Electric Motorcycle.

There is no provision for electrically assisted pedal cycles also.

Unless a collision scene image is viewed there could well be a lot of confusion between: e-scooter, e-bike, electrically assisted bike or electric scooter etc.

There is a field for the RTC Clerk to input "another" Vehicle Type. However, this is purely reliant on the Clerk utilising this field,

In essence to locate the records that involved an E Scooter and then extract the relevant data to fulfil your request would require manually reviewing all the held records. In 2022, there are 7,151 collision records on file. So far for 2023, there are 4,432, however, these totals will change as collisions are validated and duplicates removed etc. To review in excess of 11,000 records for 2022 & 23 alone would seriously exceed the 18hr rule.

(What the Analyst did say was that hopefully, the DfT will add an e-scooter vehicle type to the next roll out of STATS20 and it will make things a lot easier in the future for us to extract this type of data)

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 provide that the cost limit for non-central government public authorities is £450. This must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour, providing an effective time limit of 18 hours.

Guidance from the Information Commissioner to public authorities is that where one part of a request is reasonably estimated to exceed the appropriate limit then the authority is not obliged to consider or comply with the remainder of the request up to the point at which the appropriate limit has been reached. Please note point 30 of the below link:-

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf