

Date: 03/02/2022

Our Reference: FOIA-2022-008

RE: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write in response to your Freedom of Information request, dated 07/01/2022, which you requested:

1. *Police officers' transportation by road of persons falling into the following categories:*
 - i. *victims/potential victims of crime;*
 - ii. *persons in need of assistance and/or protection (who do not fall into (i)), regardless of whether or not the force is under a legal duty to assist them; and*
 - iii. *suspects.*

b. Responding to incidents which require or may require officers to transport or arrange for the transportation by road of persons falling into any of the categories set out in Question 1(a) above, where such persons cannot, for reasons of disability, transfer into the seat of a police car or van and/or who use a powered wheelchair.
2. *Please provide a copy of any equality impact assessment which the College of Policing has undertaken touching on the transportation by road of persons falling into any of the categories set out at Question 1(a) above.*
3. *Please confirm details of any training provided by the College of Policing for responding to incidents involving people who, for reasons of disability, cannot transfer into the seat of a police car or van and/or who use a powered wheelchair.*
4. *Please confirm the arrangements that the College of Policing would expect police forces to have in place for the transportation of (electronic or manual) wheelchair users. Please include facilities for securing the wheelchair with or without an occupant, and users whose wheelchair is not within the reference size for accessible transport.*

Decision

When a request for information is made under FoIA 2000, a public authority has a general duty under section 1(1) of the Act to inform an applicant whether the requested information is held. There is then a general obligation to communicate that information to the applicant.

In line with section 1(1) of the FoIA, I can confirm the College does hold some of the information you require. I will answer each part of your questions below, noted as 1-4.

1. Our '[Roads Policing APP](#)' provides guidance of the transportation of arrested persons, however, it does not provide anything specifically relevant to the circumstances set out in your request.
2. No information held.
3. I can confirm that the 'Roads Policing Curriculum' does not provide any guidance specific to your request. It does contain a learning outcome/minimum content coverage within the course 'Licence Acquisition (Cat C, C1, D1, and E), which covers passengers but only contains the following generalised statement:

Learning Outcome

2. Demonstrate safe positioning of the vehicle to enable safe access for loading and unloading of passengers/goods with due regard to other road users

Minimum Content Coverage

2.3 The safe loading and unloading of goods/passengers from the vehicle with due regard to pedestrians, cyclists and other road users

The purpose of the 'Licence Acquisition (Cat C, C1, D, D1, and E)' training is as follows:

This learning is designed for anyone who is going to drive a vehicle for a policing purpose or in response to an incident or emergency and for which additional driving licence categories or skill sets are required. It will develop the knowledge and skills required to drive Category B small vans, category C, C1 Large vehicles (vehicles in excess of 3,500 kg maximum authorised mass), D, D1 passenger vehicles (mini[1]buses carrying up to 16 passengers) and E (Trailers), to a consistently high standard, that enables them to respond to an incident, whilst making use of legal exemptions. It includes learning on the requirement to check the vehicle and/or trailer prior to use, drive safely, how to conduct a variety of manoeuvres, including cornering and overtaking, on a variety of roads and in differing conditions. Also included is how to gather information effectively and the need to have due regard for all road users and how to recognise existing and potential hazards.

4. No information held. This would be a matter for each individual police force.

Yours sincerely,

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Appendix A

Your right of review

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have a right to request an internal review if you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request. Review requests should be made in writing (by email or post) within 40 working days from the date of our original response. We will aim to respond to your review request within 20 working days.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If, after lodging a review request you are still dissatisfied, you may raise the matter with the ICO. For further information you can visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>. Alternatively, you can contact them by phone or write to them at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 0303 123 1113

