| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1736  Responded to: 29th July 2024 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I’m researching the number of motorists, stopped and fined for driving whilst towing a caravan or trailer above the legal speed limit.

## I did look at your disclosure log, but I could not easily find this information.

## I believe I’m right in my understanding that the maximum speed on a 70mph dual, triple or more motorway class highway whilst towing is 60mph and on a two-way single carriageway with a 60mph speed limit it drops to 50mph, again when towing a trailer.

## These types of speeding offences seem prevalent on the A74M and it is only data held for this road (in both directions) I am after.

## So, to sum up, I’m after the last five years data of how many motorists were stopped and subsequently fined, warned or reminded about what the maximum speed they can lawfully drive at when towing.

To give a comprehensive answer to your request I am going to answer in two parts. Firstly, referring to officer detected offences and secondly referring to camara detected offences.

Regarding road traffic offences detected by an officer relating to towing a trailer on the A74M, Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, there are no specific recording markers on our systems for road traffic offences or road traffic matters involving a towed vehicle. This information will be recorded as specific details within each recorded case. The only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each road traffic offence and road traffic matter report created on our systems to determine whether a towed vehicle was involved.

Regarding road traffic offences detected by the saftey camara unit I can confirm that as of 23/07/24 there are zero recorded offences involving a vehicle towing a trailer or caravan on the A74(M) in either 2021, 2022, 2023 or 2024. Due to retention periods data for 2019 is unable to be provided therefore the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.