



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 21/0668

Enquiries:

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Mr Lee Odenwalder
Member for Elizabeth
44 John Rice Avenue
ELIZABETH VALE SA 5112

Email: elizabeth@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Odenwalder

Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1991, access was sought to:

"Statistical data relating traffic complaints to Traffic Watch, either by phone or via the SAPOL app, including: number of reports of offences (whether substantiated or not) for each financial year from 2015-16 a breakdown of the penalties (fine, caution, specific court imposed sentence, other, etc.) for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015-16 numbers of arrests for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015-16 any data which suggests that there are regular callers/reporters for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015-16"

On 7 October 2020 via email you refined the scope of your request to seeking access to:

- *"Statistical data relating traffic complaints to Traffic Watch, either by phone or via the SAPOL app, including: number of reports of offences (whether substantiated or not) for each financial year from 2015-16 until 30/06/20.*
- *A breakdown of the penalties (fine, caution, specific court imposed sentence, other, etc.) for traffic offences reported via Traffic Watch for each financial year from 2015-16 until 30/06/20.*
- *Overall numbers of arrests for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015-16 until 30/06/20.*
- *Any data which suggests that there are regular callers/reporters for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015-16 until 30/06/20."*

On 11 November 2020 Sergeant Sandra Watson spoke with [REDACTED] of your office to seek further clarity regarding 'regular callers/reporters'. [REDACTED] clarified this part of your request to 'Recidivist caller/reporter to be someone who calls five (5) times or more.'



In relation to the following parts of your request:

- *Statistical data relating traffic complaints to Traffic Watch, either by phone or via the SAPOL app, including number of reports of offences (whether substantiated or not) for each financial year from 2015 – 2016 until 30/06/20.*
- *A breakdown of penalties (fine, caution, specific court imposed sentence other, etc.) for traffic offences reported via Traffic Watch for each financial year from 2015- 2016 until 30/06/20...*

It is determined to **release in full** data that falls within these parts of your request. The data has been presented in the table below and was correct as at 9 October 2020.

YEAR	TOTAL FOR YEAR	ACTION	LETTER	FILED	ACTIONED RESULTS					
					REPORT	ARREST	CAUTION	DEFECT	IMPOUND	LOSS OF LIC
2015/2016	26409	2944	10746	12719	216	6	222	13	10	2
2016/2017	29092	3259	8711	17122	217	7	262	16	14	6
2017/2018	28973	3322	10052	15599	189	14	322	17	11	7
2018/2019	28721	1615	3657	23449	106	6	85	3	7	1
2019/2020 OLD	513	40	1	472	8	0	7	0	0	0
2019/2020 NEW	1778									

Please note that caution should be taken when interpreting the data and the following information should be taken into account.

Prior to commencement of the new Traffic Watch system in 2019/2020 reports could be triplicated as there were multiple recording methods.

The new Traffic Watch system does not record reports multiple times or record actions and actioned results.

In relation to the following part of your request:

- *Overall numbers of arrests for traffic offences for each financial year from 2015 – 2016 to 30/06/20...*

It is determined to **release in full** the total number of arrests recorded by SAPOL for traffic related offences. The data has been presented in the table below, was correct as at 9 October 2020.

Financial Year	Total number arrests – Traffic Related Offences
2015/2016	14,671
2016/2017	13,541
2017/2018	13,396
2018/2019	13,881
2019/2020	14,595

In relation to the following part of your request:

"...• Any data which suggests that there are regular callers/reporters who call five (5) times of more reporting traffic offences for each financial year from 2015 – 2016 until 30/06/20."

SAPOL is unable to search the old Traffic Watch system for data falling within the scope of this part of your request.

It is determined that since the inception of the new Traffic Watch system twelve (12) callers/reporters made reports on more than five (5) occasions. This data was correct as at 12 November 2020.

Please note that the new Traffic Watch system allows for reporters to remain anonymous. During the search for data falling with the scope of this part of your request fourteen (14) reports contained the word "anonymous" and four hundred and thirty six (436) reports have no caller/reporter details therefore it is unknown if these reports were received from recidivist callers/reporters.


This determination was made on 20 November 2020.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by **13 December 2020**.

Your rights to review

If you are dissatisfied with the determination for access to SAPOL records, you are entitled to exercise your right of internal review in accordance with section 29(1) of the FOI Act by completing a PD362 Application for Internal Review form which can be downloaded from <https://www.police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/freedom-of-information> or available upon request at your nearest police station. Alternatively an application may be made in writing to the SAPOL Freedom of Information Unit. This application must be lodged within 30 days from the date of this determination with a fee of \$37.50. Such a fee may be waived in the event of an exemption being claimed.

Yours sincerely,


Senior Sergeant First Class Tracy Gentgall
Officer in Charge
Freedom of Information Unit
(Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

23 November 2020