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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 000116/17**

Thank you for your request for information regarding speeding which has now been considered.

**Applicant Question:**

The ACPO issued guidance for prosecuting speeding traffic based on 10%+2 mph; that is to say for example that in a 30mph limit offending drivers would only be followed up if they were exceeding 35 mph.

The Government over many years has run an anti-speeding campaign that starkly points out the potential difference in outcomes to a child of being hit by a car travelling at 30 vs 40 mph: an 80% chance of survival for the former; an 80% chance of being killed by the latter.

The very clear message from the Government is that '30 means 30', whereas by contrast the ACPO is saying that 35 is OK. For the ACPO to say this it must have conducted a thorough risk analysis that proves that the risk of injury at 35 mph is no greater than at 30mph, otherwise it would in effect be sanctioning not only breaking the law but also accepting that the increased risk to the public is in some way acceptable.

1. What information is available that summarises the work that took place before this guidance was issued, particularly the risk assessment that proves there would be no adverse consequences whatsoever.

**NPCC Response:**

The NPCC does not hold information captured by your request.

The NPCC superseded ACPO in April 2014. In wishing to assist you, I have researched previous FOI responses which were released whilst ACPO operated and I have found the following text from a 2011 FOI response:

*ACPO Speed Enforcement Guidelines are agreed amongst Chief Constables to enable them to offer operational advice and guidance to their officers.*

*This guidance outlines thresholds for enforcement of speed limits. It should be noted that at any time a Police Officer has discretion to act outside of them enforcing proportionate action depending on the risks to individuals and property and the seriousness of any breach.*



It may assist you to understand that ACPO guidance was guidance only. Each Chief Officer is responsible for the operational integrity and accountability regarding how they police their force areas.

Yours sincerely

Sherry Traquair  
Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

[www.npcc.police.uk](http://www.npcc.police.uk)

## **COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

### Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 20 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.