



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 10\4958

21<sup>st</sup> July 2010

*Dear Mr Hamilton,*

**To ask the Minister of Justice whether speeding fines must be processed within a certain period of time; and what happens to the fine if that deadline is missed.**

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister of Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

In the event a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued to a driver for excessive speed, the offender has a period of 21 days, from the date of the offence, to pay the £60 penalty. In addition, in order to comply with the requirements of the fixed penalty procedure, the driver must agree to surrender their driving licence to police, at the time of the detection or if not in a position to do so, within 7 days. If the penalty is still unpaid after 21 days from the date of the offence, it will be registered as a Fine at the offenders' local Magistrates Court, and increase to £90.

If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

*Yours sincerely,  
John McCaughan*

**JOHN MCCAUGHAN**  
Superintendent  
for Chief Constable

Mr S Hamilton MLA  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX