

## Online Reporting of Road Traffic Incident and Collisions

Section 170 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 requires that certain types of accident are reported to the either a police station or a Police Constable "as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case within 24 hours".

Today, **16.01.2019**, within **Northamptonshire Police** the **Traffic Manager**, or the person exercising that function from time to time, has been designated as the receiving Constable for the purposes of this legislation. They have decided that they will accept road traffic incidents reported online, and have direct responsibility for all teams that will receive the online reports.

As a result, members of the public can make reports of road traffic collisions online and still comply with the requirements of the Road Traffic Act.

Signed: 

### **Annex A: Section 170, Road Traffic Act [1988]**

*Section 170 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 imposes obligations on drivers of mechanically propelled vehicles who are involved in road accidents.*

*170(1) This section applies in a case where, owing to the presence of a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road or other public place an accident occurs by which -*

*(a) personal injury is caused to a person other than the driver of that mechanically propelled vehicle, or  
(b) damage is caused -*

*(i) to a vehicle other than that mechanically propelled vehicle or a trailer drawn by that mechanically propelled vehicle, or  
(ii) to an animal other than an animal in or on that mechanically propelled vehicle or a trailer drawn by that mechanically propelled vehicle, or  
(iii) to any other property constructed on, fixed to, growing in or otherwise forming part of the land on which the road or place in question is situated or land adjacent to such land.*

*170(2) The driver of the mechanically propelled vehicle must stop and, if required to do so by any person having reasonable grounds for so requiring, give his name and address and also the name and address of the owner and the identification marks of the vehicle.*

*170(3) If for any reason the driver of the mechanically propelled vehicle does not give his name and address under subsection (2) above, he must report the accident.*

170(4) A person who fails to comply with subsection (2) and (3) above is guilty of an offence.

170(5) If, in a case where this section applies by virtue of subsection (1)(a) (personal injury), the driver of a motor vehicle does not at the time of the accident produce such a certificate of insurance or security, or other evidence, as is mentioned in section 165(2)(a) of this Act -

(a) to a constable, or

(b) to some person who, having reasonable grounds for so doing, has required him to produce it,

the driver must report the accident and produce such a certificate or other evidence. (see note (iv))

170(6) To comply with a duty under this section to report an accident or to produce such a certificate of insurance or security, or other evidence, as is mentioned in section 165(2)(a) of this Act, the driver-

(a) must do so at a police station or to a constable, and

(b) must do so as soon as is reasonably practicable and, in any case, within twenty-four hours of the occurrence of the accident.

170(7) A person who fails to comply with a duty under subsection (5) above is guilty of an offence.

170(8) In this section **animal** means horse, cattle, ass, mule, sheep, pig, goat or dog.