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TASER report 31mth 15/3/11 (10593)

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FIGURES ON THE REPORTED AND RECORDED USES OF TASER BY POLICE FORCES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

The reports attached detail TASER usage for the following periods and incident types:

Reports on the use of TASER are broken down into four tables:

- 1. All uses of TASER in England and Wales since introduction in April 2004 up to 31 March 2010 on a cumulative basis (Table 1).**
- 2. All uses of TASER in England and Wales from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 broken down by quarter (Table 2).**
- 3. TASER use by specially trained units from 1 September 2007 to 31 March 2010 on a cumulative basis (Table 3).**
- 4. TASER use by specially trained units from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 broken down by quarter (Table 4).**

The previous publication of figures was released on 25th March 2010, it has been archived and can be found at the following web address:

<http://tna.europarchive.org/20100413151426/http://scienceandresearch.homeoffice.gov.uk/hosdb/publications/police-weaponry/taser-quarterly-Sept09.html>

NOTES FOR TABLES:

- a) The tables detail the number of uses of TASER – only the highest level of ‘use’ for each TASER deployment is recorded. TASER use as defined by Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO): TASER Operational Guidance December 2008 policy section 5.2 (available at <http://www.westmercia.police.uk/about-us/acpo-armed-policing.html>)
- b) The tables show the number of TASER ‘uses’ as opposed to the number of TASER ‘incidents’. This is designed to ensure full transparency on TASER deployment as there may be more than one ‘use’ of TASER at an ‘incident’.
- c) Direct comparisons between forces should be drawn with caution for the following reasons:
- Not all forces have participated in the use of TASER during all the periods. For example, this is why not all forces are currently represented in table 3 and 4.
 - The population and size and demographic within each force area varies considerably.
 - TASER deployment forms are not always received in a timely fashion or in chronological order.
 - We cannot be certain that historically all forces have recorded TASER usage in the same way, although this has been mitigated by ACPO issuing clear instructions to forces on reporting procedures (Latest Circular Nov 2008).
- d) All figures are based on forms detailing TASER deployments between the stated dates and submitted by police forces to the Home Office Scientific Development Branch before 01st June 2010. Forms from incidents prior to the reporting period received after the aforementioned date will be included in subsequent reports, thus there may be discrepancies between figures reported each period. Data validation methods include inter-observer reliability and comparative checks of previous reports to assess any anomalies in trends.
- e) In 2004, following a trial in five forces, it was agreed to allow chief officers of all police forces in England and Wales to make **TASER** available to authorised firearms officers. The Home Office announced on 19 July 2007 that authorised police firearms officers in England and Wales would be able to use **TASER** (from 20 July 2007) in a greater set of circumstances. These officers are now able to deploy **TASER** in operations or incidents where the use of firearms is not authorised, but where they are facing violence or threats of violence of such severity that they would need to use force to protect the public, themselves or the subject.

It was also announced in July 2007 that the deployment of **TASER** by specially trained police units who are not firearms officers, but who are facing similar threats of violence, would be trialled in ten police forces.

The 12-month trial commenced on 1 September 2007 and finished on 31 August 2008. It took place in the following forces: Avon & Somerset, Devon & Cornwall, Gwent, Lincolnshire, Merseyside, Metropolitan Police, Northamptonshire, Northumbria, North Wales and West Yorkshire.

Following the success of the trial, from 1 December 2008, **TASER** use was extended to specially trained units in accordance with current Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) policy and guidance. This sets out that **TASER** can only be used where officers would be facing violence or threats of violence of such severity that they would need to use force to protect the public, themselves and/or the subject(s).

**Table 1 - All TASER uses in England and Wales (excluding the original 2003 pilot)
- 22 April 2004 to 31 March 2010**

Force	Usage Details							Total Used
	Discharges	Drive-stuns	Arced	Red Dot	Aimed	Drawn	Not Stated	
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	56	32	29	145	18	54		334
Bedfordshire Police	53	4	1	53	5	18		134
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	27	4	1	144	5	23		204
Cheshire Constabulary	18	1	6	31	1	8		65
City of London Police	1		1	9				11
Cleveland Police	43	1	2	84		10		140
Cumbria Constabulary	26	5	10	64	1	7	1	114
Derbyshire Constabulary	11	1	1	76	5	19		113
Devon & Cornwall Constabulary	63	12	4	110	6	21		216
Dorset Police	45	14	5	46	1	10		121
Durham Constabulary	38	2		119	12	20		191
Dyfed-Powys Police	10	1		33	3	3		50
Essex Police	37	8	3	57	2	4		111
Gloucestershire Constabulary	34	1		49	2			86
Greater Manchester Police	81	9	3	125	10	49		277
Gwent Police	34		5	142	19	23		223
Hampshire Constabulary	32	3	3	59	8	18		123
Hertfordshire Constabulary	36	4	2	96	5	50		193
Humberside Police	48	5	13	257	15	22		360
Kent Police	16		2	54	4	27		103
Lancashire Constabulary	90	6	4	121	5	21		247
Leicestershire Constabulary	18	4	39	88	11	21		181
Lincolnshire Police	11	2	4	28	3	9		57
Merseyside Police	47	7	1	80	16	6		157
Metropolitan Police	401	70	29	442	47	181	3	1173
Norfolk Constabulary	51	19	10	32	7	7		126
North Wales Police	55	11	7	139	13	31		256
North Yorkshire Police	18	4	6	57	5	9		99
Northamptonshire Police	23	2	3	59	2	14		103
Northumbria Police	184	19	5	604	53	188	1	1054
Nottinghamshire Police	27		4	52		1		84
South Wales Police	30	8	6	67	5	2		118
South Yorkshire Police	16	1	1	50	5	18		91
Staffordshire Police	27	7	11	92	13	14	1	165
Suffolk Constabulary	15	1	2	49	6	14		87
Surrey Police	23	8	8	48	3	6		96
Sussex Police	27	6	3	72	5	9		122
Thames Valley Police	16	2		37	2	3		60
Warwickshire Police	1			8	1	1		11
West Mercia Police	62	23	8	152	9	20		274
West Midlands Police	84	7	2	114	4	15		226
West Yorkshire Police	213	24	27	247	12	24	1	548
Wiltshire Constabulary	37	6	4	43	5			95
Totals	2185	344	275	4434	354	1000	7	8599

NB: Only the highest level of 'use' for each TASER deployment is recorded.

'Use' as defined by ACPO: TASER Operational Guidance December 2008 policy section 5.2

Table 2 - All TASER uses in England and Wales

1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010, by quarter

Force	Usage Details															
	Firings				Drive-stuns				Non-discharges				Totals			
	2009		2010		2009		2010		2009		2010		2009		2010	
	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	4	6	11	3	4	2	9	8	21	45	26	21	29	53	46	32
Bedfordshire Police	9	3	7	4			1		6	8	13	12	15	11	21	16
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	2		2	4			1		17	14	20	9	19	14	23	13
Cheshire Constabulary	2			1		1			1	2	8	3	3	3	8	4
City of London Police									1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1
Cleveland Police	2	4		1					1	4	7	13	3	8	7	14
Cumbria Constabulary	2	4	4	5	1		2		2	9	6	8	5	13	12	13
Derbyshire Constabulary	4			1				1	10	6	16	9	14	6	16	11
Devon & Cornwall Constabulary	1	1	5	8		2	2	2	5	8	16	34	6	11	23	44
Dorset Police	4	3	5	1	3		3	1	6		6	7	13	3	14	9
Durham Constabulary	2		2	5			1		11	10	28	19	13	10	31	24
Dyfed-Powys Police		3	1	1			1		3		8	8	3	3	10	9
Essex Police		4	2	1			1		6	5	6	14	6	9	9	15
Gloucestershire Constabulary	2	2	1	3					5	1	2	2	7	3	3	5
Greater Manchester Police	7	7	17	24				1	6	15	61	82	13	22	78	107
Gwent Police	2	10	5	4					14	40	25	33	16	50	30	37
Hampshire Constabulary	2	8	5	3		2	1		12	10	19	33	14	20	25	36
Hertfordshire Constabulary	3	4	5	3		1		1	21	18	12	21	24	23	17	25
Humberside Police	2	1	4	5				3	23	28	34	75	25	29	38	83
Kent Police	1	3	1	7					2	6	8	42	3	9	9	49
Lancashire Constabulary	5	7	9	5					9	2	22	35	14	9	31	40
Leicestershire Constabulary	2	2		1			1		11	15	28	31	13	17	29	32
Lincolnshire Police				2					0	0	5	19			5	21
Merseyside Police	1	3	10	14		1	3	1	1	12	17	16	2	16	30	31
Metropolitan Police	12	31	25	31	2	3	6	3	53	51	38	60	67	85	69	94
Norfolk Constabulary	3	5	7	4	1	3	6	5	2	9	8	9	6	17	21	18
North Wales Police	2	3	1	5		1	1	2	6	12	24	34	8	16	26	41
North Yorkshire Police		1							2	2	1	6	2	3	1	6
Northamptonshire Police	7	1	2	1					4	10	10	20	11	11	12	21
Northumbria Police	20	13	13	19	1	1	3	2	73	72	80	51	94	86	96	72
Nottinghamshire Police	4	4	3	2					4	9	7	13	8	13	10	15
South Wales Police		4		4		2	2	1	7	11	6	7	7	17	8	12
South Yorkshire Police	1		2	2			1		6		15	39	7		18	41
Staffordshire Police	4	1							5	1	11	6	9	2	11	6
Suffolk Constabulary		1	1						7	15	5	18	7	16	6	18
Surrey Police	5	1	4	8	2	1		2	3	3	12	15	10	5	16	25
Sussex Police	1	3	1	3	1			4	3	10	12	2	5	13	13	9
Thames Valley Police		1		2	1				14	7	3	2	15	8	3	4
Warwickshire Police									4		4		4		4	
West Mercia Police	10	5	9	5	4	7	4	2	23	25	37	29	37	37	50	36
West Midlands Police		2	13	19	1			2	0	5	42	48	1	7	55	69
West Yorkshire Police	8	10	19	29	5	1	1	4	18	14	30	60	31	25	50	93
Wiltshire Constabulary	1	3	1	5	1			3	2	4	1	20	4	7	2	28
Totals	137	164	197	245	27	28	50	48	430	520	741	986	594	712	988	1279

NB: Only the highest level of 'use' for each TASER deployment is recorded.

'Use' as defined by ACPO: TASER Operational Guidance December 2008 policy section 5.2

Table 3 - TASER use in England and Wales by specially trained units from 1 September 2007 to 31 March 2010

Force	Usage Details							Total Used
	Discharges	Drive-stuns	Arced	Red Dot	Aimed	Drawn	Not Stated	
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	11	15	7	71	7	42		153
Bedfordshire Police	4			11	1	3		19
Cheshire Constabulary	1			4		2		7
City of London Police			1	2				3
Cleveland Police	1		1	6				8
Cumbria Constabulary	6			4				10
Derbyshire Constabulary	1	1		4	1	1		8
Devon & Cornwall Constabulary	19	6	1	64	3	16		109
Durham Constabulary						1		1
Dyfed Powys Police	1			5				6
Gloucestershire Constabulary				1				1
Greater Manchester Police	35		3	93	8	44		183
Gwent Police	7			34	3	10		54
Hampshire Constabulary	3	1		6	2	2		14
Hertfordshire Constabulary	3			15	2	16		36
Humberside Police	6	3		49	2	5		65
Kent Police	6			15	3	9		33
Lancashire Constabulary	10			38	4	6		58
Leicestershire Constabulary			1	17	3	7		28
Lincolnshire Police			1	13	2	3		19
Merseyside Police	25	5		45	4			79
Metropolitan Police	92	9	23	370	42	172		708
Norfolk Police	2							2
North Wales Police	21	5	4	60	5	18		113
Northamptonshire Constabulary	3		1	13	1	5		23
Northumbria Constabulary	146	10	3	400	26	126		711
Nottinghamshire Police				3				3
South Yorkshire	3	1		30	5	14		53
Staffordshire Police			1	5		1		7
Suffolk Constabulary	1		2	14	2	3		22
Surrey Police	3		1	15		4		23
Warwickshire Police				2				2
West Mercia Police	2			9				11
West Midlands Police	33	2	1	67	4	15		122
West Yorkshire	63	12	18	120	7	17		237
Wiltshire Constabulary	3	3	1	18	1			26
Total	511	73	70	1623	138	542	0	2957

NB: Only the highest level of 'use' for each TASER deployment is recorded.

STU = Specially Trained Units

Use' as defined by ACPO: TASER Operational Guidance December 2008 policy section 5.2

Table 4 - TASER use in England and Wales by specially trained units
1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010, by quarter

Force	Usage Details													Totals			
	Firings				Drive-stuns				Non-discharges								
	2009		2010		2009		2010		2009		2010		2009		2010		
	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	1	1	6	1		2	7	5	7	29	21	21	8	32	34	27	
Bedfordshire Police		1	1	2							7	8		1	8	10	
Cheshire Constabulary				1							4	2			4	3	
City of London Police										1	1	1		1	1	1	
Cleveland Police				1								7				8	
Cumbria Constabulary			3	2							1	3			4	5	
Derbyshire Constabulary				1				1			3	3			3	5	
Devon & Cornwall Constabulary			3	1			2	2	2	2	12	28	2	2	17	31	
Durham Constabulary												1				1	
Dyfed Powys Police				1							2	3			2	4	
Gloucestershire Constabulary												1				1	
Greater Manchester Police			5	13	17				1	12	56	79	1	17	69	96	
Gwent Police		1	1	3					1	10	7	15	1	11	8	18	
Hampshire Constabulary		2		1		1				1	5	4		4	5	5	
Hertfordshire Constabulary	1		1	1					8	8	4	10	9	8	5	11	
Humberside Police			1	5				3		2	12	42		2	13	50	
Kent Police				6								27				33	
Lancashire Constabulary			5	5							15	33			20	38	
Leicestershire Constabulary										2	12	14		2	12	14	
Lincolnshire Police											2	11			2	11	
Merseyside Police	1	3	5	14		1	3			9	13	16	1	13	21	30	
Metropolitan Police	6	16	4	8	2		1		48	48	34	53	56	64	39	61	
Norfolk Police			1	1											1	1	
North Wales Police		3	1	4			1	1	4	9	22	29	4	12	24	34	
Northamptonshire Constabulary	2								1	1	1	7	3		1	7	
Northumbria Constabulary	19	12	12	13		1	1	1	52	40	52	40	71	53	65	54	
Nottinghamshire Police												3				3	
South Yorkshire			1	2			1				10	39			12	41	
Staffordshire Police											2	5			2	5	
Suffolk Constabulary			1							11	2	8		11	3	8	
Surrey Police				3							7	13			7	16	
Warwickshire Police											2				2	0	
West Mercia Police			2							4	3	2		4	5	2	
West Midlands Police			13	19				2		1	37	48		1	50	69	
West Yorkshire	6	3	7	18	5	1	1	2	10	5	16	53	21	9	24	73	
Wiltshire Constabulary				3				3			1	19			1	25	
Totals	36	47	81	133	7	6	17	20	134	194	366	648	177	247	464	801	

NB: Only the highest level of 'use' for each TASER deployment is recorded.

'Use' as defined by ACPO: TASER Operational Guidance December 2008 policy section 5.2

http://www.westmercia.police.uk/assets/files/documents/sep_09/wmp_1252486507_ACPO_Policy_and_Operational_Us.pdf

http://www.westmercia.police.uk/assets/files/documents/sep_09/wmp_1252486536_ACPO_Policy_and_Operational_Us.pdf