



Ministry  
of Defence Police

MDP Secretariat  
Room 126, Building 1070  
MDP HQ Wethersfield  
Braintree, Essex CM7 4AZ

Tel: 01371 85 [REDACTED]  
Fax: 01371 854080  
E-mail: [MDP-FOI-DP@mod.uk](mailto:MDP-FOI-DP@mod.uk)

Our Ref: eCase: FOI2016/09152 RFI: 271/16  
Date: 25th November 2016

[REDACTED]  
By email – [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: FIREARMS SEIZURES.**

I refer to your email dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 and our letter to you dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your email of the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 you requested the following information:

**“For each of the last five calendar years, including 1st January to 30th September 2016, please provide:**

- 1. The total number of firearms seized by your force.**
- 2. The number of those weapons which were assault rifle or machine pistol-type weapons capable of automatic or semi-automatic fire, eg AK-47, Skorpion, Uzi.**

**To be clear, this request concerns only firearms seized or surrendered to your force that were NOT held under any firearms licence, ie only illegal weapons seized as a result of operational policing, surrender or amnesty”.**

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence Police and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

In our letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 we advised you that some of the information in scope of your request may be subject to exemption.

I have completed a public interest test and concluded that the public interest favours not releasing some of this information. I am therefore withholding some of the information (item 2) in accordance with FOI exemption Section 31(1)(a) Law enforcement.

- Section 31(1) Law enforcement applies because providing details of would reveal some information that would undermine the prevention or detection of crime and the administration of justice.

**1. The total number of firearms seized by your force.**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Total number of firearms seized</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2016 – to date</b>	<b>14</b>

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB (email [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website (<http://www.ico.org.uk>).

Yours sincerely

**MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office**