



# Ministry of Defence Police

Our Ref. FOI: FOI2014/05006

Your Ref: RFI: 164.14

**Data Protection Officer & Freedom of  
Information Manager**

**Room 127 Building 1070**

**MDP Wethersfield**

**Braintree CM7 4AZ**

**United Kingdom**

Telephone: +44 (0)1371 [REDACTED]

Facsimile: +44(0) 1371 854080

E-mail: [MDP-FOI-DP@mod.uk](mailto:MDP-FOI-DP@mod.uk)

Date: 23 September 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: BODY ARMOUR.**

I acknowledge receipt of your e-mail of 7 September 2014, which we are treating as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your e-mail of 7 September 2014, you requested the following information:

*"I wrote to you previously regarding the new armour myself and fellow Police Officers are being furnished with at AWE Aldermaston. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I would be grateful if you could answer the similar questions below regarding the current/old body armour.*

- 1. What three suppliers were sourced for the armour?*
- 2. What models of armour were trialled?*
- 3. When and where were the trials carried out on these suppliers/models of armour?*
- 4. Who carried out the trials on this armour to include location and job role of the officers' trialling?*
- 5. What females' trialled the 'female' body armour, their job role and location?*

6. *The findings from the trials?*
7. *The reasons for the final decision on the chosen body armour?*
8. *Why was the decision made to change to the new armour we are at present being furnished with?*

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

1. *What three suppliers were sourced for the armour?*

The Department already had a contract with the supplier when the requirement was identified.

2. *What models of armour were trialled?*

No trial conducted.

3. *When and where were the trials carried out on these suppliers/models of armour?*

No trial conducted.

4. *Who carried out the trials on this armour to include location and job role of the officers' trialling?*

No information held.

5. *What females' trialled the 'female' body armour, their job role and location?*

No information held.

6. *The findings from the trials?*

No information held.

7. *The reasons for the final decision on the chosen body armour?*

No information held.

8. *Why was the decision made to change to the new armour we are at present being furnished with?*

The outgoing armour was purchased in FY 2005/2006 and 2006/2007, this makes the armour 7-8 years old. Once the armour is 5 years old it must be tested to destructions to stay in service. To achieve this, armour is taken from operational Police officers who will require a replacement. If the test is successful it revalidates that batch of armour for one year only. This test procedure has to be carried out each year for the duration of its extended life. It currently costs £65K to carry out all the testing at Cranfield University.

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 Team, 1st 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.gov.uk>).

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.