



# Ministry of Defence Police

Our Ref. FOI: FOI2015/04040

Your Ref: RFI: 089.15

Data Protection Officer & Freedom of  
Information Manager

Room 127 Building 1070

MDP Wethersfield

Braintree CM7 4AZ

United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)1371 85 [REDACTED]

Facsimile: +44(0) 1371 854080

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: 30 April 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

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

We acknowledged receipt of your e-mail of 26 April 2015, on 28 April 2015. We are treating this as request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your e-mail of 26 April 2015, you requested the following information:

- 1. Since receiving your responses, I have been informed that the size of my new body armour was male 3C. Please can you give me a specific weight breakdown of the weights for the new and old body armour in this size?*
- 2. Please can you also tell me who was responsible for ordering or choosing the new body armour.*
- 3. Are there any policies that state that new equipment, including issuing new body armour, should be trialled?*
- 4. Are there certain procedures that should have been followed before rolling it out to the force?*
- 5. At what point would the Health and Safety Executive be informed of the problems with the new style body armour?*

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

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1. Since receiving your responses, I have been informed that the size of my new body armour was male 3C. Please can you give me a specific weight breakdown of the weights for the new and old body armour in this size?

	Size 3C Old Armour	Size 3C New Armour MOLLE
Hard Armour Plates	2.1kg	1.9kg
Soft Armour with Carrier	3.1kg	3.9kg

Summary:

New hard armour plate is 0.2Kg lighter than the old one, making a total weight saving of 0.4kg.

New soft armour is 0.8kg heavier, this is because they conform to the 2007 HOSDB standard not the 2003 standard, also there is an 8% increase in body coverage and that it has the MOLLE system on it, the carrier is therefore an equipment vest as well.

2. Please can you also tell me who was responsible for ordering or choosing the new body armour.

The decision to order MOLLE body armour was taken by the MDP Operations Resources Dept in consultation with the Finance Dept.

3. Are there any policies that state that new equipment, including issuing new body armour, should be trialled?

No information held. We are not aware of any "policies" mandating trialling body armour before issue.

4. Are there certain procedures that should have been followed before rolling it out to the force?

No information held. We are not aware of any "procedures" to be followed before rolling out body armour.

5. At what point would the Health and Safety Executive be informed of the problems with the new style body armour?

No information held. It is not clear what you think should be referred to the Health & Safety Executive.

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.org.uk>).

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.