



Ministry of Defence Police

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI2018/09995 RFI:233/18

Date: 14 August 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: MARINE HELMETS

I refer to your e-mail dated 25 July 2018, which was acknowledged on the same date.

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

In your e-mail you requested the following information:

“Q1) What brands and models of helmets are in current use in the Marine Units on small high-speed crafts?

Q2) What works and thus potential hazards are faced by front-line officers that this model of helmet is chosen?

Q3) What brands and models of high-speed crafts are in current use in the Marine Units?”

A search for information has now been completed by the Ministry of Defence Police and I can confirm that we do hold some information in scope of your request.

Q1) What brands and models of helmets are in current use in the Marine Units on small high-speed crafts?

The Ministry of Defence Police uses the Gecko open face marine helmet

Q2) What works and thus potential hazards are faced by front-line officers that this model of helmet is chosen?

The Ministry of Defence Police marine unit face the generic marine policing hazards and risks of:

- Noise
- Whole Body Vibration
- Water ingress into the ears
- Impact of head against fixed or stationary object
- Impact of projectile from marine environment

The Gecko helmet was chosen because it provides head protection against head injuries, as well as mitigating sufficiently against the risks reducing noise levels at ear by increasing the exposure time permissible for operations. The Gecko helmet (Mk10) is a 'half face' safety helmet with a full face visor thereby reducing water ingress and providing noise mitigation. The helmet also allows communication capability to be maintained via a microphone and a left sided loudspeaker and wearer comfort via a small air vent is located on the right which may be adjusted to open or closed.

Q3) What brands and models of high-speed crafts are in current use in the Marine Units?

The Ministry of Defence Police marine units use the following: 5.4 Avon Sea Rider, Arctic 24, Arctic 28, Pacific 24 Mk3, Pacific 24 Mk4, 7m Delta

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office