



Ministry of Defence

Fraud Defence
Ministry of Defence
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11th May 2018

FOI Request 2018/03191

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence of 10th March 2018 requesting the following information:

- "1. How many weapons (by type) and explosive munitions for which the Department has responsibility have been recorded as (a) lost and (b) stolen in 2017.*
- 2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2017 calendar year.*
- 3. How many department computers, laptops, memory sticks were lost/stolen by month since January 2017?"*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

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

1. How many weapons (by type) and explosive munitions for which the Department has responsibility have been recorded as (a) lost and (b) stolen in 2017.

Source – Directorate of Security & Resilience

The information you have requested can be found below, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of absolute exemptions provided for at Section 21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant) because this information has already been released under a previous FOI reference (FOI2017/07673), a copy of which is attached at Annex A.

In addition to the above for August 2017 onwards, the following have been reported, and remain, missing:

Weapons:

Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
Glock 17	1	Stolen - Alleged Theft in Barbados.

Explosive munitions:

Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
4.6mm	1	Lost
5.56mm	1	Stolen
5.56mm	167	Lost
5.56mm Blank	20	Lost
7.62mm	1	Lost
2oz Charge Gunpowder (Bagged)	1	Lost
Detonator Electric L2A2	11	Lost
Boom Charge L1A1	2	Lost
C4 Training Sample	70g	Lost
Signal Cartridge	1	Lost

The MOD takes the security of firearms and ammunition very seriously and have robust procedures to deter and prevent losses and thefts which are constantly reviewed. The majority of ammunition losses occur as a result of accidental loss during exercises or on operations.

2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2017 calendar year.

Please see table at Annex B

The MOD works hard to detect and deter theft and there are robust processes in place to raise awareness of the need for vigilance in all aspects of security. Just as theft occurs in wider society, the MOD is not immune and we actively encourage individuals to report any evidence of loss or suspicion of theft. It is important to note that in some cases of reported theft the property is later recovered. In the case of key assets however, MOD sites have a wide range of additional security measures to ensure their safety.

Please note that this response only lists those items where the cases have been closed within the time frame specified and the completed investigations established that items were stolen.

3. How many department computers, laptops, memory sticks were lost/stolen by month since January 2017?

The MOD treats information security as a top priority. All incidents of equipment going missing or stolen are thoroughly investigated and may result in disciplinary action. The MOD promotes a culture where security is the responsibility of all staff and personnel are required to report all security incidents. This can result in figures appearing higher than comparable organisations.

Using the incident types of 'Loss' and 'Theft' the table shows how many computers, laptops, memory sticks have been recorded in the MOD security incident management database as lost/stolen by month since Jan 17

Source - ISS

	Computers	Laptops	USB sticks
Jan-17		5	6
Feb-17		3	
Mar-17		6	1
Apr-17		1	5
May-17		9	2
Jun-17		7	6
Jul-17		4	6
Aug-17		2	1
Sep-17		8	5
Oct-17		4	3
Nov-17	1	6	8
Dec-17	3	5	5

I hope this is helpful. 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.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/>

Confidential Hotline



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Reference: FOI2017/07673

[REDACTED]
email to: [REDACTED]

31st August 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated the 1st August 2017 where you have requested the following information:

"Under the FOIA I would like to know the following please:

The amount and type of ammunition, the amount and type of firearms and the amount and type of military equipment that has been reported "missing" for the calendar years 2015, 2016 and 2017 to date.

Please limit your search to what has gone missing from any and all military bases in the following unitary areas: Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Swindon.

Please break the information down by base and by year (and month if possible)

By "missing" I mean lost and/or stolen: please give details of what happened in each case so far as it is known."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

The information you have requested regarding the amount and type of ammunition, the amount and type of firearms can be found below, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of absolute exemptions provided for at Section 21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-published-by-mod-week-commencing-3-july-2017>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-published-by-mod-week-commencing-10-july-2017>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-published-by-mod-week-commencing-24-july-2017>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-published-by-mod-week-commencing-07-august-2017>

In addition to the above, for 2017, the following have been reported, and remain, missing:

Firearms: None reported missing since April 2017.

Ammunition:

Type	Quantity	Reported by	Comment(s)
5.56 MM BLANK	60	Army	Lost during exercise in Canada
SIGNAL SMOKE	1	Army	Lost during exercise in Canada
4.7mm	20	MOD Police	Lost at sea (fell overboard)

Section 31 is a qualified exemption and is subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 31 has been applied because releasing details of weapon thefts/losses, broken down by year, type and specifically where it was taken from could be prejudicial to the prevention and detection of crime. When a public interest test was conducted relating to the use of this section, it was deemed that the balance of public interest lay against the release of location for the aforementioned reasons.

In respect of your question "*Type of military equipment that has been reported "missing" for the calendar years 2015, 2016 and 2017 to date.*" I can confirm that MOD holds information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Section 16 of the FOIA requires a public authority to offer advice and assistance on how to reduce or refine a request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit by narrowing or limiting its scope. The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. This may be achieved by limiting the timeframe specified in your request; limiting your request to stolen items only; or losses recorded by specific MOD bases/Locations. Please contact the FOI-CIO team if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

You may also find it helpful to note the MOD records information on losses that occur for a variety of reasons. Stores losses, which relate to losses of items of equipment, etc, are recorded discretely within the Department and are categorised into either culpable losses, including fraud, theft, arson, sabotage, repairable damage to buildings, stores, etc, caused maliciously (known as category B1 losses), and all other types of stores losses (known as category B2 losses). Thefts are a subcategory of category B1 losses and because of the seriousness of the matter we keep separate central records on thefts. For that reason, it is

generally easier to provide information about thefts than other types of losses, though it is dependent on the nature of the specific enquiry.

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.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

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Fraud Defence

All items centrally reported stolen in the 2017 calendar year *source - Fraud Defence*

Items stolen	Location	Alleged Offence Value where recorded	Items recovered or partial recovery
pressure washer	Yeovilton	£238.00	N
Audiometer	Oxfordshire	Not Recorded	N
military eqpt	ACF, Middlesbrough	Not Recorded	N
laptop	HMS Somerset	Not Recorded	N
19 x target locators, 11 x grenade launcher sights, 2 x hearing protectors	Catterick	£34,084.00	N
	eBay	£250.00	N
watch	eBay	Not Recorded	N
23 x watch, 4 x binoculars, 3 x target locator, 1 x electric saw, 1 x grinder, 10 x Unserviceable head mounted night vision systems	Catterick	£77,232.00	N
Helmet	Catterick	£319.00	N
sight	Iraq	£642.00	N
40 X protective plate	Aldershot	£1,460.00	N
military eqpt	Colchester	£800.00	N
Pharmacy stores	Larkhill	Not Recorded	N
fuel	Kenya	£19,762.00	N
Ration packs	Kenya	£7,973.00	N
Knee pads, AA batteries, SA80 down grip, day sack	eBay	Not Recorded	N
5 x Watch, binoculars, soup tureen, 4 x wrench	Portsmouth	£1,775.00	N
Day sack, Molle Hip Belt, Molle Hip Belt Yoke, PRR Pouch, Medical Pouch, Water Bottle Pouch, 2 x Grenade Pouch, Magazine Drop Pouch, Ammunition Pouch, Utility Pouch, Bayonet Scabbard Pouch, ETH Pouch, Water Bottle, 2 x Cap Water Canteen	Catterick	£146.00	N
2 x shelter distribution units	eBay	£4,459.00	N
10 x utility pouch, 5 x rucksack	Bristol	£385.00	N
tools	Catterick	£48.00	N
Helmet	Croydon	£319.00	N
fuel	N Ireland	£107.00	N
Corporate gifting items	Rosyth	Not Recorded	N
watch	eBay	£300.00	N
sewing machine	Germany	Not Recorded	N
2 x Fluke electrical testing equipment	HMS Montrose	£245.00	N
respirator, helmet	Northampton	£170.00	N
Respirator, filter packs	N Ireland	£43.00	N
Target locator	Woolwich	£476.00	N
respirator, helmet	Northampton	£110.00	N
respirator, helmet	Northampton	£111.00	N
respirator, helmet	Cambridgeshire	£170.00	N
3 x laser pointer, 8 X weapon sights	HMS QNLZ	£7,698.00	N
portable light unit	Arbroath	£2,669.00	N
Diagnostic machine, engine block stand, plastic trunking	Thatcham	Not Recorded	N
Target locator, 5 sat nav, 6 x head mounted night vision systems, 5 x binoculars	Tidworth	£47,000.00	N
bike, training sledge	Devonport	£416.00	N
body armour, hydration system	HMS Ocean	Not Recorded	N

Items stolen	Location	Alleged Offence Value where recorded	Items recovered or partial recovery
grinder, 4 x abrasive wheel set, 4 x abrasive disks, 2 x pneumatic air hose	Catterick	£504.00	N
ration packs	Kenya	£7,973.00	N
2 x fire extinguishers	Kenya	£18.00	N
1 x receiver transmitter radio, 1 x antenna	N Ireland	£1,102.00	N
Target locator	York	£821.00	N
Helmet	Catterick	£350.00	N
6 x digital camera	Falkland Islands	£1,638.00	N
body armour, helmet	London	£208.00	N
bike	Chatham	£750.00	N
2 x head mounted night vision system	Stafford	£6,186.00	N
2 x head mounted night vision system	Stafford	£6,186.00	N
Vacuum	RAF Wyton	£208.00	N
charcoal, box of tissues, scotch bright, tie wraps, first aid box	Gibraltar	£40.00	N
helmet	Arbroath	£383.00	N
helmet	Arbroath	£383.00	N
helmet, rife sling, body armour, boots, hydration system,	Swansea	Not Recorded	N
10 x L/R Pintle towing assy, 12 x battery storage	Kenya	£10,881.00	N
military clothing	Social media	Not Recorded	N
picture, 2 x plaques	RAF Scampton	Not Recorded	N
helmet	Garelohead trg area	£193.00	N
helmet	Exmouth	£321.00	N
Hydraulic pipe bender	Devonport	£300.00	N
bergen and contents	Blandford	£240.00	N
tools	Burghfield	Not Recorded	N
grinder	Devonport	£80.00	N
fuel	N Ireland	£21.00	N
fridge	Belize	£128.00	N
bike	Belize	£63.00	N
rifle	Warminster	Not Recorded	Y
tool bag	Devonport	Not Recorded	Y
2 x dumbbell weights	AFC Harrogate	Not Recorded	N
welding screen	Devonport	£900.00	N
dial steering course repeater	Devonport	£5,204.00	N
electrical items	RAF Lakenheath	£357.00	N
Vacuum	AFC Harrogate	£100.00	N
helmet	eBay	Not Recorded	N
sleeping bag	Exmouth	£485.00	N
1 x pack of 4 Sildenafil 100mg	Gosport	Not Recorded	N