



# Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2020/01846  
RFI:064/20

Date: 2 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

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

We refer to your email dated 6 february 2020 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 7 February 2020.

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

In your email you requested the following information:

- 1) For each of the last five years up to the date of this request, the number of incidents where there has been a negligent discharge of a police-issue firearm in your force. To be clear, by "negligent discharge" I mean any incident where a police-issue firearm has been fired when it should not have been or when it was not intended to do so.
- 2) Where possible, please provide brief details of the circumstances of that discharge - ie, description of the weapon, the location, whether during training or operational circumstances, whether it resulted in any injury.
- 3) For each of the last five years, the number of incidents where there has been a failure by a member of your force to maintain proper possession of a police-issue firearm. To be clear, by "failure to maintain proper possession" I mean any incident where a police-issue firearm has been left unattended by an officer or otherwise not been in the full possession of an officer when it should have been.

**4) Where possible, please provide brief details of the circumstances of each incident of this nature - ie description of the weapon, location, whether during training or operational circumstances.**

**5) For questions 1 and 3, please indicate whether any incidents resulted in disciplinary action and the result of that disciplinary action.**

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

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 Secretariat and Freedom of Information Office**

1) 2) and 5)

Year	Number of Incidents	Detail	Injuries	Action Taken
2015	0	No information held	N/A	No information held
2016	1	Firearm discharged during training	No	Misconduct outcome: Management Action
2017	0	No information held	No	No information held
2018	0	No information held	No	No information held
2019	1	Firearm discharged during disarming/arming procedure in controlled area	No	Misconduct outcome: Management Action
	1	Firearm discharged whilst on external patrol within a Defence site	No	Misconduct outcome. Officer would have been dismissed had they not already left the force

3) 4) and 5)

Year	Number of incidents	Detail	Action Taken
2015	0	No information held	No information held
2016	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Written Warning
	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Management Action
	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Final Written Warning
	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Written Warning
2017	0	No information held	No information held
2018	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Written Warning
2019	1	At officer's duty station	Misconduct outcome: Management Action