



Ministry
of Defence

Fraud Defence
Ministry of Defence
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FOI Request 2021/01721

18th March 2021

Dear ,

Thank you for your email of 15 February 2021 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 2020?
2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2020 calendar year.
3. How many department computers, laptops, memory sticks were lost/stolen by month since January 2020?”*

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 2020?

Source - Defence Security

Weapons: Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
Deactivated pistol	1	Lost during training
Decommissioned RPG7 on a display plinth	1	Lost
Airsoft Glock-17 pistol	1	Lost

Explosive munitions: Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
9mm	90	Lost
4.6mm	2	Lost
5.56mm	2434	Lost
7.62mm	1031	Lost
.22inch	19	Lost

The MOD takes the security of firearms and ammunition very seriously and has robust procedures to deter and prevent losses and thefts which are constantly reviewed. No live firearms were lost or stolen in 2020. 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 2020 calendar year. - Please see table at Annex A

Under section 23(5) (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether there is additional information in scope of your request. This is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test. This should not be taken as an indication that additional information is or is not held by the department.

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 2020?

Using the Defence Incident Management Database, the following numbers were retrieved for the Loss/Theft of Department Computers, Laptops and USB sticks by month since Jan 2020. Some of the losses can be attributed to accounting errors.

Source - ISS Defence Assurance and Information Security (DAIS)

Month	Computers	Laptops	USBs	Total
Jan - 2020	0	13	3	16
Feb - 2020	0	21	13	34
Mar - 2020	0	9	11	20
Apr - 2020	0	179**	2	181
May - 2020	1	9	0	10
Jun - 2020	0	26	4	30
Jul - 2020	2	22	7	31
Aug - 2020	2	5	3	10
Sep - 2020	2	8	8	18
Oct - 2020	5	9	6	20
Nov - 2020	0	6	4	10
Dec - 2020	10	36	2	48
Total	22	343	63	428

**In April 2020 a reconciliation exercise took place, as investigations progress we would expect the loss numbers to fall.*

*** The losses in April include items requiring a system update that were recorded as lost until such time the relevant Department could confirm their current location.*

The MOD is a very large organisation which employs over 280,000 personnel worldwide. All breaches of security are taken very seriously. MOD Policy requires all breaches to be reported regardless of whether there is firm evidence of loss or just an inability to account for some devices. All incidents are subjected to an initial security risk assessment with further action taken on a proportionate basis.

It is also MOD policy that all laptop, tablet computers and removable media are encrypted to minimise the impact if a loss were to occur. Investigations indicate that many of the losses identified are in fact accounting errors highlighted by security mustering processes.

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/>.

Yours sincerely

Fraud Defence

All items centrally reported stolen in the 2020 calendar year – *source: Fraud Defence*

Items stolen	location	Alleged offence value where recorded	items recovered or partial recovery
MOD Equipment	Warrington	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirators	Whitby	£0.00	NO
Helmet	Huddersfield	£150.00	NO
Daysack	Colchester	£150.00	NO
MOD Equipment	Thorney Island	£0.00	NO
Body armour, PPR Pouch, 2 x mag pouches	London	£0.00	NO
Body armour	Edinburgh	£0.00	YES
Electrical fuel pump	Canada	£333.26	NO
Lever manual control	Canada	£135.00	NO
Bracket and shaft assembly	Canada	£542.77	NO
Lever manual control	Canada	£135.00	NO
Laptop	Canada	£0.00	NO
Generator	Gloucestershire	£7,918.00	NO
Body armour liner	London	£0.00	NO
Body armour and Helmet	Catterick	£0.00	YES
Body armour and Helmet	Swanton Morley	£0.00	NO
Bergen, webbing and Helmet	Cottesmore	£0.00	NO
Body armour and Helmet	RAF Waddington	£0.00	NO
Field packs and side pouches	Abingdon	£546.48	NO
TV	Middle Wallop	£0.00	NO
Body armour and Helmet	Colchester	£0.00	NO
Body armour	Catterick	£196.71	NO
Ration packs	eBay	£80.00	NO
Vehicle spares	Kenya	£149.41	NO
Anvil	Aldershot	£988.00	NO
2 x Headlights	Colchester	£5,600.00	NO
Respirator, respirator filter pack, field pack	Sheffield	£63.67	NO
Binoculars	Aldershot	£268.73	NO
Watch	Catterick	£35.00	YES
Computer and keyboard	Bulford	£548.00	NO
Body armour	Tidworth	£0.00	NO
4 x magazine, T-shirt, 2 x trousers	Catterick	£217.67	NO
Toolbox and tools	Larkhill	£700.00	NO
Helmet	Germany	£334.00	NO
Binoculars	Kinloss	£223.94	NO
RCD circuit tester	Tidworth	£243.00	NO
elastic cord assembly, compression sack, sleeping bag and sleeping bag case	Lisburn	£74.78	NO
Freezer	Aldergrove	£0.00	NO
Boots	York	£455.00	NO

Items stolen	location	Alleged offence value where recorded	items recovered or partial recovery
6 x Injector assembly	Kenya	£478.28	NO
Electrical items	Catterick	£700.00	NO
Fuel	Abingdon	£82.60	NO
TV	Aldershot	£0.00	NO
Helmet	Thirsk	£0.00	NO
Helmet	Thorney Island	£328.18	NO
Laptop	Sandhurst	£0.00	NO
Helmet	Colchester	£343.00	NO
Tools	Larkhill	£6,294.54	NO
Body armour	Ripon	£0.00	NO
Gym equipment	Larkhill	£1,500.00	NO
Gym sledges	Bulford	£2,100.00	NO
MFO box	Larkhill	£684.03	NO
Helmet	Catterick	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Respirator	eBay	£0.00	NO
Manifoil container	eBay	£40.00	NO
Money	Estonia	£125.00	NO
2 x outboard motors	Leicestershire	£10,668.00	NO
Hammock	Yeovilton	£233.60	NO
Arctic clothing, ECW trousers/ jackets, waterproof trousers/ jackets and Berghaus yeti gaiters	Taunton	£13,005.93	NO
27 x Respirators	Taunton	£3,380.26	NO
Museum ordnance	RAF Northolt	£0.00	NO
Night Vision goggles	RAF Brize Norton	£0.00	NO
Bergen	RAF Honington	£0.00	NO
Helmet and jacket	RAF Odiham	£0.00	NO
Ear defenders	RAF Honington	£0.00	NO
Rucksack	RAF Brize Norton	£0.00	NO
Mobile phone	RAF Marham	£0.00	NO
Respirator	RAF Cosford	£0.00	NO
Laptop	RAF Digby	£0.00	NO
Projector	Northwood	£0.00	NO
Helmet	RAF Waddington	£0.00	NO
Respirator and helmet	RAF Coningsby	£0.00	NO
Webbing	RAF Leeming	£0.00	NO
Helmet	RAF Cosford	£0.00	NO

Items stolen	location	Alleged offence value where recorded	items recovered or partial recovery
2 x Winch, 6 x 12mtr tactical masts	Digby	£0.00	NO
Respirator	RAF Akrotiri	£0.00	NO
Vehicle trailer	Falkland Islands	£1,026.00	NO
Helmet	RAF Coningsby	£0.00	NO
Body armour, helmet	RAF Benson	£1,106.00	NO
2 x Camera	Brunei	£0.00	NO
15 x iPads	RAF Shawbury	£1,500.00	NO
2 x Diving knife, hunting knife	RAF Brize Norton	£0.00	NO
Glock barrel and spring	RAF Honington	£0.00	NO
4 x Tents	RAF Coningsby	£0.00	NO
Helicopter despatcher harness	RAF Shawbury	£790.81	NO
2 x TRX force sets	RAF Woodvale	£399.90	NO
Gym equipment	RAF Wittering	£5,000.00	YES
3 x Desktop microphone	RAF Shawbury	£27.00	NO
Personal range finder	RAF Honington	£2,037.58	NO
2 x Radio chargers	RAF Waddington	£61.22	NO
4 x TV	Dhekelia	£0.00	NO
Fluke multimeter	RAF Cosford	£100.00	NO
Rucksack, Respirator, helmet, jacket, trousers, glove, torch, ear plugs	RAF Benson	£574.40	NO
Lacon container	RAF Cosford	£1,400.00	NO
Helmet, Bergen	RAF Digby	£0.00	NO
Respirator	Wolverhampton	£0.00	NO
Painting, stools, table	RAF Shawbury	£318.98	NO
24 x Batons	Falkland Islands	£0.00	NO
6 x Camera, 30 x 64Gb memory cards	RAF Lossiemouth	£1,400.00	NO
1 x Olympic bar, 20kg bumper weights, 2 x 14kg dumbbells, 2 x 16kg dumbbells	RAF Boulmer	£500.00	NO
Helmet	RAF Waddington	£0.00	NO