



Ministry
of Defence

Fraud Defence
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FOI Request 2020/02137

12th May 2020

Dear

Thank you for your email of 13th February 2020 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 2019
2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2019 calendar year.
3. How many department computers, laptops, memory sticks were lost/stolen by month since January 2019?”*

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 2019.

Source - Defence Security

The information you have requested can be found below, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of qualified exemptions provided for at Section 31 (Law Enforcement) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

The following firearm(s) and ammunition were reported, and remain, missing:

Weapons:

Type	Quantity	Reported by	Lost/Stolen
General Purpose Machine Gun	1	Navy	Lost overboard in heavy seas
Glock 17 Pistol - Deactivated Training Weapon	1	DE&S	Lost by courier company
L103A2 – SA80 (Cadet Drill Purpose Rifle)	4	Army	Stolen from a Merseyside Cadet Facility
L144A1 – Cadet Small Bore Target Rifle	4	Army	Stolen from a Merseyside Cadet Facility
WWI era antique Rifles	4	Army	Stolen from Reserve Centre

Ammunition:

Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
4.6mm	42	Lost
5.56mm	285	Lost
7.62mm	1701	Lost
9mm	76	Lost
12.7mm	10	Lost
.22in	1000	Stolen from Merseyside Cadet Facility

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 loss of 4x L103A2 – SA80, 4x L144A1 - CSBTR and 1000x .22in rounds of ammunition occurred in a single theft from a Merseyside cadet facility in March 2019. The majority of ammunition losses occur as a result of accidental loss during exercises or on operations.

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 the unit responsible/location of loss or theft 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 unit responsible for the aforementioned reasons.

2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2019 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 2019?

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 19.

Some of the losses can be attributed to accounting errors

Source - ISS Defence Assurance and Information Security (DAIS)

	Computers	Laptops	USB sticks	Total
Jan-19		6	1	7
Feb-19		5	5	10
Mar-19	6	41	8	55
Apr-19	1	3	6	10
May-19	14	11	5	30
Jun-19		14	7	21
Jul-19	3	22	4	29
Aug-19	1	35	4	40
Sep-19	2	51	5	58
Oct-19	3	18	7	28
Nov-19		27	8	35
Dec-19	1	17	1	19
Jan-20		15	3	18
Total	31	265	64	360

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/>.

Fraud Defence

All items centrally reported stolen in the 2019 calendar year *source - Fraud Defence*

Items Stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered or partial recovery
Ration Pack	York	£0.00	No
Clarinet and ear plugs	Twickenham	£2,594.40	No
Gym Equipment	Bovington	£6,029.00	No
Helmet	Gloucester	£328.18	No
2 x Bergen, Sleeping bag, 2 x bivi bag, 2 x trousers, 2 x shirt, 2 x under body armour combat shirt, 4 x socks, smock	Kenya	£210.82	No
Target location & Observation, Med kit, sleeping bag, water bottle	Kenya	£1,391.83	No
Keypad display unit and Radio	Kenya	£11,323.65	No
quad bike	Aldershot	£15,000.00	No
compass, Sharp shooter mags, counter weight, beret, 3 x under body armour combat shirt, 4 x trousers, 2 x socks, 2 x sleeping bag, 2 x roll mat, 2 x poncho, Bivi bag, 2 x bergen, water bottle, ear defenders,	Kenya	£1,207.68	No
bearskin	eBay	£0.00	No
Body armour	Catterick	£196.98	No
body armour, helmet, smoke grenade	Colchester	£900.00	Yes
weapon sight	Andover	£451.46	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator, Helmet, Webbing, Cover bag, Sack compression, Sleeping bag, Sheet shelter, Field Pack	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator, Helmet	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator, Helmet	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator, Helmet	Bristol	£0.00	No
Facepiece Assy Respirator, Canister Respirator, Helmet	Bristol	£0.00	No
body armour	Warminster	£196.30	No
vehicle starter	Kenya	£28.19	No
vehicle tach	Kenya	£288.63	No
protect valve	Kenya	£87.57	No
Vehicle parts	Kenya	£1,501.84	No
protect valve	Kenya	£87.57	No
Vehicle parts	Kenya	£356.30	No
vehicle tach	Kenya	£288.63	No

Items Stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered or partial recovery
Axle prop	Kenya	£170.13	No
vehicle starter	Kenya	£28.19	No
Vehicle parts	Kenya	£356.30	No
Vehicle parts	Kenya	£1,077.87	No
Fuel	Tidworth	£0.00	No
weapon sight	Paddockwood	£679.19	No
14 x rail cards	Aldershot	£0.00	No
dumbbells	Hermitage	£80.00	No
Helmet, respirator, Body armour, radio, navigation module	Ripon	£655.00	No
building materials	Wareham	£0.00	No
camera, lens, flash, memory card	Dartmouth	£3,194.71	No
maritime sextant	Gosport	£2,295.00	No
cabinet	Gosport	£310.70	No
helmet, respirator	Lincoln	£0.00	No
MOD Equipment and clothing	RAF Halton	£277,605.00	No
respirator	RAF Halton	£0.00	No
Helmet	Blackpool	£0.00	No
Helmet	RAF Henlow	£0.00	No
MOD equipment	RAF Honington	£780.00	No
webbing and helmet	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
cash	RAF Honington	£35.00	No
hydration system	RAF Lossiemouth	£0.00	No
helmet, ear defenders, respirator, body armour	Cyprus	£0.00	No
cash	RAF Lossiemouth	£80.00	No
7 x Objective lens assemblies	RAF Shawbury	£7,454.58	No
5 mg Diazepam	RAF Honington	£3.00	No
Fuel, scuba knife	RAF Wittering	£0.00	No
2 x Landrover clutch, 2 x Landrover steering column, 2 x TV, battery charger, gym equipment	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
Granulated rubber	RAF Wittering	£2,950.00	No
helmet	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
laser light module	RAF Honington	£1,040.00	No
Gore-Tex Jacket and trousers	RAF Honington	£49.70	No
2 x motor bike toolkits, 5 gallon drum of antifreeze, 5 litres of paint and undercoat, 2 x first aid kits, 2 x Norwegian containers, 1 x jet sac containing a field first aid kit	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
Body armour	RAF Wittering	£0.00	No
first aid kit	RAF Waddington	£0.00	No
Tornado components	RAF Marham	£0.00	No
tools	RAF Marham	£0.00	No
helmet	RAF Wittering	£0.00	No
turbo for Landrover engine	RAF Benson	£409.00	No

Items Stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered or partial recovery
6 x crew shelters	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
trigger mechanism bar and associated parts of a rifle	RAF Cosford	£0.00	No
Virtus equipment	RAF Honington	£0.00	No
container	RAF Northolt	£420.94	No
2 x laptops	USA	£0.00	No
fuel	RAF Northolt	£0.00	No
helmet, respirator	RAF Cosford	£0.00	No
helmet	RAF Odiham	£0.00	No