



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/07191

RFI: 202/21

Date: 26 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: HEADWEAR OPTIONS.

We refer to your email dated 3 July 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 6 July 2021.

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) Please can you confirm the headwear options (e.g. custodian, bowler, flat cap, bump cap etc) available to the following officers/staff (please simply list the options, we do not require photos etc):

- **Police Community Support Officers**
- **Constables (on initial training)**
- **Constables (patrol/neighbourhood/response)**
- **Constables (roads policing)**
- **Constables (Formal occasions – parades, court etc)**
- **Firearms officers**
- **Taser officers**
- **Dog handlers**
- **Search officers**
- **PSU Level 3 officers**
- **PSU Level 2 officers (when not using a NATO helmet)**
- **PSU Level 1 officers (if you have them in your force, when not using a NATO helmet)**
- **Senior officers (Inspectors and above)**
- **Any other officers/staff/specialist roles supplied with headwear (other than NATO helmet)**

- 2) Are there any gender based limitations on officers requesting any of the following items (i.e. males are routinely allocated one type of headwear, females another)?
- 3) Do you have specific headwear options available for non-binary officers which aren't available otherwise?
- 4) Are there any roles or occasions whereby officers would not be able to utilise a gender neutral headwear option such as a flat cap/bump cap?
- 5) Does your force utilise any internal publications to provide a visual representation of how officers should be dressed whilst on duty? (such as posters, aide memoirs etc) (A simple Yes/No is sufficient, we do not request copies of these)
 - a. If the answer is yes, is there visual representation of the uniform options available to non-binary officers?
- 6) When was your force's uniform policy last updated?
- 7) Was your force's LGBT+ Staff Network consulted on the uniform policy at its last update?
- 8) When is your uniform policy next due to be reviewed?

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 can you confirm the headwear options (e.g. custodian, bowler, flat cap, bump cap etc) available to the following officers/staff (please simply list the options, we do not require photos etc):

- Police Community Support Officers – N/A
- Constables (on initial training) – **flat cap/baseball cap/bowler**
- Constables (patrol/neighbourhood/response) – **flat cap/baseball cap/bowler**
- Constables (roads policing) – **flat cap/baseball cap/bowler**
- Constables (Formal occasions – parades, court etc) – **baseball cap/flat cap**
- Firearms officers – **baseball cap**
- Taser officers – **baseball cap**
- Dog handlers – **baseball cap**
- Search officers - **baseball cap/bump cap**
- PSU Level 3 officers – **public order helmets**
- PSU Level 2 officers (when not using a NATO helmet) – **public order bump cap**
- PSU Level 1 officers (if you have them in your force, when not using a NATO helmet) – **public order bump cap**
- Senior officers (Inspectors and above)- **flat cap/baseball cap**
- Any other officers/staff/specialist roles supplied with headwear (other than NATO helmet) **Specialist traffic officers – white flat caps, turban material held if required.**

Are there any gender based limitations on officers requesting any of the following items (i.e. males are routinely allocated one type of headwear, females another)?

No

Do you have specific headwear options available for non-binary officers which aren't available otherwise?

No

Are there any roles or occasions whereby officers would not be able to utilise a gender neutral headwear option such as a flat cap/bump cap?

No

Does your force utilise any internal publications to provide a visual representation of how officers should be dressed whilst on duty? (such as posters, aide memoirs etc) (A simple Yes/No is sufficient, we do not request copies of these)

No

- a. If the answer is yes, is there visual representation of the uniform options available to non-binary officers?

When was your force's uniform policy last updated?

2020

Was your force's LGBT+ Staff Network consulted on the uniform policy at its last update?

Yes

When is your uniform policy next due to be reviewed?

This is currently under review.

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