



# Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/15292

RFI: 364/21

Date: 14 January 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

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

We refer to your email dated 12 December 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 13 December 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:

**Since the recent change in the law with regards to police batons, do you provide secure storage at the relevant police stations for ASP/Batons like you do for CS spray?**

**If you don't provide this, can you advise how these offensive weapons are being secured inside the officers houses away from other family members etc?**

**Could you also provide if you have actively tried to advise members of the public of the recent change of the law, thus preventing them from unknowingly breaking the law?**

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.

The Ministry of Defence Police Operational Personal Protection Equipment (OPPE) Standard Operating Procedures state:

### **Security, Care & Maintenance of OPPE**

Officers are individually responsible for the security of all OPPE issued to them. Handcuffs and batons should be placed in a secured locker/unit when off duty and should not normally be taken home or kept in private vehicles except where there is an operational and/or

training need to do so and appropriate authorisation has been obtained by a Senior Police Officer with record of decision and the justification retained.

**Could you also provide if you have actively tried to advise members of the public of the recent change of the law, thus preventing them from unknowingly breaking the law?**

No information held.

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**