



Ministry  
of Defence

Fraud Defence  
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FOI Request 2024/02641

11 March 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 12 February 2024 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 2023?”*
- 2. Please provide a list of all stolen items, value and location of the theft of all items that were recorded stolen in the 2023 calendar year.*
- 3. How many department computers, laptops, memory sticks were lost/stolen by month since January 2023?”*

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.

The MOD is a very large organisation which employs over 229,000 personnel<sup>1</sup> 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Ministry of Defence Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21

For 01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023 I can confirm the following:

**1. Weapons – lost / stolen:** *Source - Defence Security*

Weapons: Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
Glock 19 Pistol	1	Lost
SA80 <sup>2</sup>	1	Lost
Deactivated WWI German Machine Gun <sup>3</sup>	1	Lost
Deactivated WWII Sten Gun SMG	1	Lost
Deactivated WWII Luger Pistol	1	Lost
Explosive Munitions: Type	Quantity	Lost/Stolen
5.56mm	90	Lost
7.62mm	145	Lost
9mm	47	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. Most ammunition losses occur as a result of accidental loss during exercises or on operations.

**2. Stolen equipment:** *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. Computers/laptops lost/stolen:**

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 2023 from incidents that were raised and closed in 2023. Some of the losses can be attributed to accounting errors.

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<sup>2</sup> Weapon was subsequently found.

<sup>3</sup> Weapon was subsequently found.

Source - ISS Defence Assurance and Information Security (DAIS)

Month	Computers	Laptops	USBs
Jan-2023	0	13	2
Feb-2023	0	10	0
Mar-2023	0	38	2
Apr-2023	0	10	0
May-2023	0	8	2
Jun-2023	0	10	1
Jul-2023	0	9	6
Aug-2023	0	51	3
Sep-2023	0	7	3
Oct-2023	0	8	1
Nov-2023	0	9	0
Dec-2023	0	3	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>20</b>

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 2023 calendar year.  
Source: *Fraud Defence*

Items stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered
Body Armour, Helmet	Yeovilton	£0.00	No
Helmet	Yeovilton	£0.00	No
Respirator, Body Armour, Helmet	Yeovilton	£0.00	No
Helmet	Not Known	£450.00	No
Helmet	Devon	£0.00	No
Body Armour, Helmet	Yeovilton	£0.00	No
Helmet	Yeovilton	£0.00	No
WATT bike trainer monitor	Birmingham	£0.00	No
Bergen, Respirator, Helmet, Webbing, Scalable vest	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
12 x Jerry cans of Diesel	Larkhill Camp	£0.00	No
Helmet	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
2 x silver ornaments	Blandford Camp	£0.00	No
Scalable vest	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Cash	Swinton Barracks	£112.00	No
Helmet, Scalable vest, Laptop	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Bike	Larkhill Camp	£0.00	No
65 x tools	MOD Lyneham	£0.00	No
Laptop	Yeovilton	£54.69	No
Helmet	Buckley Barracks	£0.00	No
9 x laptops, 2 x docking stations, 2 x handheld device batteries, 2 x printer	in transit between Kenya and Brize Norton	£21426.68	No
4 x Ear defenders	Tidworth Garrison	£4400.00	No
2 x laser range finders	HMNB Devonport	£359.98	No
Daysack, laptop, vehicle keys, webbing, helmet, jacket, bivi bag, poncho	Kenya	£2000.00	No
Military issued equipment	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
Helmet	Catterick Garrison	£0.00	No
Webbing, Scalable Vest	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Daysack	Tidworth Garrison	£58.00	No
Helmet	Gloucestershire	£370.00	No
Helmet	Maidstone	£0.00	No
Webbing, scalable vest, helmet, bag	Not Known	£0.00	No
Mandible, webbing, daysack	Tidworth Garrison	£1535.00	No
Scalable vest	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Respirator	Thiepval Barracks	£102.91	No
TV	Chester	£1.00	No
2 x Daysacks, 12 x initiator safety fuses, safety fuse	Kenya	£187.69	No

Items stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered
Respirator, filter	Bristol	£98.23	No
Helmet	Texas, USA	£339.85	No
Fuel	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Tools	Tidworth Garrison	£2184.51	No
Body Armour	Germany	£0.00	No
Respirator	Swinton Barracks	£0.00	No
2 x X-Box controllers	Fife	£0.00	No
Gas detector, Helmet, endoscope camera	HMNB Portsmouth	£0.00	No
5 x Land Rover Tyre rims	Middle Wallop	£1135.00	No
Helmet, Daysack	Bassingbourn Barracks	£0.00	No
SA80 Rifle, 30 x Blank rounds, Laser Light Module, Lightweight Day sight	Kenya	£0.00	Yes
Helmet, Body Armour	Catterick Garrison	£0.00	No
Outboard motor, 2 x Propeller	HMNB Devonport	£3440.47	No
Vest, Helmet, Respirator	In transit between Oman and Middle Wallop	£544.19	No
iPad Pro21, Cash	Bicester	£1500.00	No
Military equipment	not Known	£0.00	No
Office supplies	Kenya	£0.00	No
3 x Bergens, Compass	Edinburgh	£0.00	No
Air Fryer	Penicuik	£0.00	No
Helmet	Yeovilton	£347.50	No
Gym equipment	Cottesmore	£0.00	No
Helmet	Bovington Camp	£58.95	No
Scalable vest	Bovington Camp	£0.00	No
Helmet, respirator, scalable vest	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Scalable vest, Nape protections, Respirator filters	Pirbright	£0.00	No
Fridge	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
6 x Medals, 6 x miniature medals	Cirencester	£0.00	No
4 x Bowman cable assemblies	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
2 x dDrills	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
Helmet	Bovington Camp	£0.00	No
Scalable vest, helmet, respirator	Haverfordwest	£0.00	No
Helmet, emergency release strap	Swinton Barracks	£0.00	No
Tools	Kenya	£0.00	No
Canbus terminator	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Ear defenders	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
White goods	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
2 x 9mm drill rounds	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No

Items stolen	Location	Alleged offence value where recorded	Items recovered
4 x torque wrench, sliding tee bar	HMS Bulwark	£0.00	No
Tool kit	HMNB Devonport	£1111.28	No
iPad mini	Catterick Garrison	£329.00	No
Mobile Phone	Hollywood, NI	£190.00	No
Bike	Gloucestershire	£0.00	No
toolbox	York	£600.87	No
Decommissioned Baker Rifle	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
Bergen several items	Buckley Barracks	£0.00	No
Bike	Bulford Camp	£0.00	No
2 x Generator airlines	Swinton Barracks	£0.00	No
1 x decommissioned Heavy Machine Gun	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Daysack, laptop charger	Normandy Barracks	£0.00	No
Tools	HMS Bulwark	£0.00	No
Binoculars	Catterick Garrison	£233.34	No
Exercise equipment	Catterick Garrison	£0.00	No
Respirator, boots	Catterick Garrison	£0.00	No
Under Body Armour Combat shirt and Trousers	Pirbright	£0.00	No
Tumble dryer	Tidworth Garrison	£300.00	No
Helmet, shoulder pads	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
TV	Gloucestershire	£0.00	No
Powerbank	HMNB Clyde	£950.00	No
23L insulated food container	Thiepval Barracks	£0.00	No
2 x Head mounted night vision goggles	RAF Brize Norton	£0.00	No
4 x medical bergens 10 x collapsible stretchers	Colchester	£8,000.00	No
CES items	Larkhill	£1,086.86	No
Diamond Brooch	Wellington Barracks	£3,500.00	No
Body Armour	Essex	£0.00	No
Helmet, vest	Swinton Barracks	£0.00	No
Fuel	Devonport	£34,000.00	No
watt bike	Kendrew Barracks	£0.00	No
Laptop	Kinloss Barracks	£0.00	No
21 x sockets	HMS Bulwark	£480.00	No
2 x Bowman radio	Not Known	£675.00	No
2 X Replica Scale Model Siege Gun	Larkhill	£0.00	No
Vest and respirator	Bulford	£0.00	No
TV	Tidworth Garrison	£0.00	No
Vest	Tidworth Garrison	£161.85	No