



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-00171

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: PSNI Issue weapons

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

Question

The PSNI issues the Glock 17 pistol to all officers replacing the Ruger Speed Six formerly issued. A range of 'long' rifles replaced the Ruger AC-556 select fire rifles.

Do the PSNI still have a stock of these two weapons, the Ruger AC-556 and the Ruger Speed Six, in what quantities are they held, what is their condition and for what reason are they maintained?

If in fact all of these weapons have been decommissioned, where, when and how were they disposed of?

Answer

There is no stock of the Ruger AC-556 weapon. There are 15 Ruger Speed Six weapons in a serviceable condition which are issued as duty weapons.

The Ruger AC-556 weapons were destroyed prior to 1995 when they were cut up into pieces that were not functional as firearms and taken to a smelting facility.

The Ruger Speed Six weapons have been destroyed on an ongoing basis since the introduction of the Glock 17 in 2003. The process is as identified for the AC-556 above.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue

of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.