



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-03399

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Stinger Deployments 2012 - 2015

Request and Answer:

Question

My request is regarding the use of so-called 'stingers' - the devices used by police to stop cars, usually when suspected criminals are being pursued. They are sometimes branded as 'stop stick', etc.

For the calendar years 2012, 2013, 2014 and up to and including September 2015, can you please provide details of:

- The number of times stingers were deployed and the date in each case
- The reason the stinger was deployed
- The number of times officers were injured during use of a stinger, and the date
- The extent of his / her injuries
- The gender / rank of the officer in each case

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Included below are two tables displaying the requested data, table one displays the date of each stinger deployment and the reason for the deployment and table two shows the requested details of those PSNI officers injured during the deployment of a stinger device.

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.

Table 1: Stinger Deployment 2012 - 2015

Date	Reason for Deployment
21/03/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/03/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
02/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
07/04/2012	Dangerous Driving
07/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
15/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
25/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
25/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
25/04/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
05/05/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
07/05/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
13/05/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
15/05/2012	Resisting Arrest
21/05/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
01/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
09/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
18/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
22/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
23/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
23/06/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
20/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/07/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
03/08/2012	Stolen Vehicle
28/08/2012	Stolen Vehicle
19/09/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
27/09/2012	Stolen Vehicle
01/10/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
02/10/2012	Failed to stop drink/drugs
19/10/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
21/10/2012	Criminal Involvement
25/10/2012	Stolen Vehicle
09/11/2012	Failed to stop drink/drugs
10/11/2012	Failed to stop drink/drugs
10/11/2012	Failed to stop drink/drugs
13/11/2012	Failed to stop drink/drugs
18/12/2012	Failed to stop at VCP
28/12/2012	Failed to stop at VCP

04/01/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
12/01/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
13/01/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
13/01/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
14/01/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
16/01/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
11/02/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
01/03/2013	Stolen Vehicle
01/03/2013	Criminal Involvement
01/03/2013	Criminal Involvement
20/03/2013	Criminal Involvement
25/03/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
06/04/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
06/04/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
24/04/2013	Criminal Involvement
27/04/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
07/05/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
11/05/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
12/05/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
26/05/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
03/06/2013	Criminal Involvement
10/06/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
19/06/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
08/07/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
14/07/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
14/07/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
17/07/2013	Criminal Involvement
19/07/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
04/08/2013	Stolen Vehicle
11/08/2013	Failed to stop drink/drugs
13/08/2013	Criminal Involvement
15/09/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
21/09/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
21/09/2013	Criminal Involvement
18/10/2013	Criminal Involvement
26/10/2013	Stolen Vehicle
17/11/2013	Criminal Involvement
17/11/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
25/11/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
06/12/2013	Failed to stop at VCP
07/01/2014	Stolen Vehicle
07/01/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
14/01/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
15/01/2014	Failed to stop drink/drugs
28/01/2014	Stolen Vehicle

15/02/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
20/02/2014	Stolen Vehicle
04/03/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
09/03/2014	Stolen Vehicle
09/03/2014	Failed to stop drink/drugs
30/03/2014	Failed to stop drink/drugs
11/04/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
17/04/2014	Criminal Involvement
20/04/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
21/04/2014	Failed to stop drink/drugs
21/04/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
21/04/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
25/04/2014	Stolen Vehicle
28/05/2014	Stolen Vehicle
08/06/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
18/06/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
20/06/2014	Criminal Involvement
28/06/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
19/07/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
01/09/2014	Stolen Vehicle
09/09/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
12/09/2014	Stolen Vehicle
13/09/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
26/09/2014	Stolen Vehicle
28/09/2014	Stolen Vehicle
28/09/2014	Stolen Vehicle
01/11/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
03/11/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
04/11/2014	Stolen Vehicle
04/11/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
08/11/2014	Criminal Involvement
23/11/2014	Stolen Vehicle
11/12/2014	Accidental
19/12/2014	Failed to stop at VCP
28/12/2014	Stolen Vehicle
06/01/2015	Stolen Vehicle
16/01/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
19/01/2015	Stolen Vehicle
01/02/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
04/02/2015	Criminal Involvement
07/02/2015	Failed to stop drink/drugs
10/02/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
13/02/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
13/02/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
25/02/2015	Stolen Vehicle

01/03/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
01/04/2015	Stolen Vehicle
04/04/2015	Failed to stop drink/drugs
08/04/2015	Criminal Involvement
13/04/2015	Criminal Involvement
14/04/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
25/04/2015	Criminal Involvement
30/04/2015	Stolen Vehicle
29/05/2015	Criminal Involvement
14/06/2015	Failed to stop drink/drugs
15/06/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
28/06/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
01/07/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
25/07/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
25/07/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
30/07/2015	Criminal Involvement
16/08/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
18/08/2015	Criminal Involvement
04/09/2015	Criminal Involvement
04/09/2015	Failed to stop at VCP
19/09/2015	Failed to stop at VCP

Table 2: Injuries Sustained During Stinger Deployments 2012 - 2015

Year	Date	Rank	Gender	Injury
2012	19/08/12	Constable	Male	whiplash to neck and back
	13/06/12	Constable	Male	sprain right knee
	15/05/12	Sergeant	Male	swelling right knee
2013	NIL			
2014	20/01/14	Constable	Male	whiplash to back, pain left wrist
	17/04/14	Sergeant	Male	whiplash to neck/right shoulder
	12/07/14	Sergeant	Male	strain/back and abdomen
	21/11/14	Constable	Male	sprain/swelling right wrist
	14/10/14	Constable	Male	whiplash to neck
	14/10/14	Constable	Male	whiplash to neck, pain to head, strain to back
	09/10/14	Constable	Male	whiplash to neck, pain left shoulder, pain left arm, pain left hand, pain left leg,
2015 to 30/10/15	23/03/15	Constable	Male	abrasion/swelling to left knee
	08/04/15	Constable	Male	sprain left knee, sprain right knee
	13/04/15	Constable	Male	whiplash to neck, sprain left shoulder, sprain left knee, sprain to back
	02/10/15	Constable	Male	Near Miss