



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-00935

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: TASER Stun Gun Used on Under 18s

Request and Answer:

Question

How many times over the last three years, broken down by year, has a taser been used on a child under the age of 18? Please give an age breakdown and include details of the circumstances where possible.

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates.

Please find table below showing the number of occasions a TASER stun gun was used on an individual under the age of 18 in the last three years. This has been broken down by year, age, type of force and brief circumstances.

Year	Age	Type of Force	Circumstances
2014	16	Aimed	Armed with a knife
2014	17	Aimed	Armed with a bladed weapon
2014	16	Drawn	Armed with a knife
2014	16	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2014	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2014	16	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2014	16	Red Dot	Armed with a handgun
2014	14	Red Dot	Armed with a handgun
2015	14	Drawn	Firearms Search
2015	16	Fired	Armed with a blade
2015	17	Red Dot	Armed with a baseball bat and dog
2015	17	Red Dot	Armed with a bladed weapon
2015	14	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2015	17	Red Dot	Armed with a bladed weapon
2015	16	Red Dot	Armed with a handgun
2015	14	Red Dot	Armed with a handgun
2016	14	Drawn	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Drawn	Armed with a knife

2016	15	Drawn	Armed with a broken bottle
2016	17	Drawn	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Firearms threat
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	16	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	16	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	15	Red Dot	Armed with a broken bottle
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	16	Red Dot	Armed with a knife
2016	17	Red Dot	Armed with a broken bottle

Please note that TASER is a trademark of TASER International Inc.

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.psnipolice.uk

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