

28th May 2020

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20201125

REQUEST

I would like to request the following information:

1. How many of your officers are currently carrying a Taser, and how many of these officers are firearms officers?

2. How many times have Tasers (including both X26 and X2) been

- **Used in drive-stun or angled drive-stun mode**
- **Fired, in the past five years (2015-2019)? Can you please break these down for each year**

3. How many times has the deployment of a Taser led to serious injury? Can you please specify whether it was a primary or secondary injury and whether the Taser was used in either one of the stun modes or fired.

4. Have any of your officers been seriously injured following an incident that required the use of Taser in the past five years (2015-2019)?

5. Has any of your Taser officers had their permit withdrawn in the past five years (2015-2019)?

6. Has any of your Taser officers been charged with assault following an incident that included the deployment of a Taser in the past five years (2015-2019)?

RESPONSE

South Yorkshire Police holds the information you request in regards to Authorised Firearms Officers in South Yorkshire Police. However, the details are already freely available.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies).

The exemption applicable to your request falls under Section 21.

Section 21 'Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant'.

This information is published on the following gov.uk website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-use-of-firearms-statistics>

I approached our Training department for assistance with your request. They have provided the following:

1. Authorised Taser Officers = - 435

2.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
<i>Drive Stun</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Angle Drive Stun</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Fired</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>85</i>

3.

No Serious Injuries have been reported as a direct result of TASER usage in the past 5 Years

4.

Yes

5.

No Officers have had their permits Permanently withdrawn in the past five years

6.

No