

**Information Management Section
IT Service Branch**

12th February 2008

Dear XXXX

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: XXXX

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18th January 2008, received by Greater Manchester Police. I note you seek access to the following information:

For the financial years -
2007 to date
2006 - 2007
2005 -2006
2004 - 2005
2003 - 2004

Please provide the following information to show (starting with the most recent financial year)

1. The number of times a police firearm was negligently discharged whilst operational in public.

For each case please state:

2. whether there were any injuries to the officer and to members of the public
3. what damage to property occurred
4. whether any action was taken against the officer concerned

In the event that this request exceeds the cost limits specified by the Act, please do the following:

Please provide complete information for parts 1, 2 and 3 (below)

1. for each financial year (starting from "2007 to date" and working backwards by year until the cost limit is reached), please state the number of times a police firearm was negligently discharged whilst operational in public
2. for each case of negligent discharge, please state whether there were any injuries to the officer and to members of the public
3. for each case, please state whether any action was taken against the officer

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Result Of Searches

Question 1 - I can confirm that from the 01st January 2003 to 24th January 2008, Greater Manchester Police have not had any reports of incidents of negligent discharges of firearms by police officers. The searches undertaken were based upon the definition of "negligent discharge" stated within the Manual of Guidance on Police Use of Firearms Chapter 6 para 2.8: "In an operational or training setting, [negligent discharge] may be defined as the negligent discharge of a weapon caused by an act, which could and should have been foreseen and prevented. This act would be accompanied by a degree of negligence or recklessness."

<http://www.westmercia.police.uk/images/mog/Chapter06.pdf>

Questions 2,3 and 4 – As per question 1 above, Greater Manchester Police do not hold the requested information.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact me on telephone number **0161 856 2529** quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely