



Freedom of Information Request: **2009/583**

Response Date: **24/11/2009**

2009/583 – Firearms - Appendix 'H' Logs regarding use of Taser on animals

In response to your recent request for information;

Please send me a copy of all 'Appendix H' sheets that have been completed where the Taser was used against a non-human animal.

Since April 2003 when the initial Police Taser trial began with just five forces taking part, North Wales Police have used a 'Taser' twice on animals.

The first was in June 2003 during the trial, involving a vicious dog; we do not hold a form for this incident.

The following press article maybe of interest to you;

<http://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/2003/06/16/vicious-dog-becomes-first-stun-gun-victim-55578-13074230/>

The second was in October 2008, involving a Ram on the A55. Please see the attached Appendix H form. Personal data has been redacted from the document under Section 40 of the Act.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 17/11/2009

APPENDIX H - TASER DEPLOYMENT FORM (v9 Nov 2007)



Requirement

- The purpose of this form is to gather research information about the operational effectiveness of the TASER system
- The questions specifically relate to the operational environment and the responses of the individual hit by the TASER
- The data is required to enable regular operational use audits and evaluations to ensure that any emerging issues are properly reflected in TASER training and guidance, as recommended by ACPO and DOMILL¹

Instructions

1. This form is to be completed following all incidents where a TASER is **used**².
2. If a TASER is drawn by **more than one firer** at any given incident, a separate form is required for each firer.
3. If a TASER is **used on more than one SUBJECT** by any individual firer, a separate form is required for each individual targeted.
4. If possible please attach the **download data** in cases where TASER is fired or used in drive stun mode and send along with the completed deployment form to **HOSDB only**.

1 DSAC Sub-Committee on the Medical Implications of Less-Lethal Weapons (DOMILL): Statement on the medical implications of M26 and X26 TASER use at incidents where firearms authority has not been granted (May 2007)

2 "Use" as defined by ACPO: TASER Operational Guidance July 2007 policy section 6.6.3

OFFICERS COMPLETING THIS FORM SHOULD EMAIL FORMS AND FORCE MEDICAL EXAMINERS FORMS TO APPROPRIATE FORCE TASER LIAISON OFFICERS WHO WILL REFER TO ACPO & HOSDB.

TASER FIRING REPORT

This form **MUST** be completed by the **officer using the TASER**, then sent to your force liaison officer:

FORCE TASER LIAISON OFFICER

CONTACT TEL/EMAIL

DATE FORM COMPLETED

01.10.2008

SUMMARY: TO BE COMPLETED IN ALL CASES

FORCE North Wales

INCIDENT DATE 01.10.2008

INCIDENT TIME 14.40

INCIDENT NUMBER J187533

PLEASE INDICATE INCIDENT TYPE

AFO USE IN AUTHORISED FIREARMS OPERATION

AFO EXTENDED USE OUTSIDE A FIREARMS OPERATION

USE BY NON-AFO IN GENERAL POLICING

TOTAL NUMBER OF TASERS **USED** IN OPERATION (*To Include All Officers*) 2

COMPLETION OF THIS FORM RELATES TO THE FOLLOWING USE OF TASER.

Please specify the highest level(s) of use (indicate if both drive stun and firing methods were used):

1 – Drawn

4 – Arced

2 – Aimed

5 – Drive Stun

3 – Red Dot

6 – Fired



TASER OFFICER DETAILS

If multiple TASER officers present, indicate how many

NAME

NUMBER

RANK

SPECIFIC ROLE at INCIDENT

FORCE

TOUR OF DUTY (e.g. 07:00 – 15:00)

Previous operational experiences with X26 TASER deployment Yes No

Number of times **actually used**, excluding this incident

Previous operational experiences with M26 ADVANCED TASER deployment Yes No

Number of times **actually used**, excluding this incident

1. INCIDENT ENVIRONMENT (Please mark with an X all that apply)

Was this an individual aggressor acting alone? Yes No

Was this an individual acting in a group? Yes No

Was this an individual acting in a crowd, during serious public disorder? Yes No

Ambient light conditions: (please mark with an X all that apply)

Daylight Dusk/twilight Darkness Artificial light

Weather details:

Environmental contaminants:

Smoke

Other salient features:

Subject location: (please mark with an X all that apply):

Indoor Outdoor Open countryside Residential premises

Incident location postcode

2. INTENDED SUBJECT CHARACTERISTICS

Sex: Male Female please state if animal e.g. dog

Age: Yrs (Tick if estimate) DOB:

Officer defined ethnicity: (please use Home Office ethnicity classification)

Self defined ethnicity:

Height: <5' 5-6' >6'

Musculature/athletic build Yes No

Build: Small Medium Large



Intended subject orientation at time of firing TASER (please mark with an X all that apply):

Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sitting <input type="checkbox"/>	Lying <input type="checkbox"/>
Forward facing <input type="checkbox"/>	Facing away <input type="checkbox"/>	Facing sideways <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stationary <input type="checkbox"/>	Approaching <input type="checkbox"/>	Retreating <input type="checkbox"/>
Other		

Other individuals in close proximity to the subject (please mark with an X all that apply):

Hostage(s):	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, what orientation	
Subject compatriot(s)	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, number present	
Bystander(s)	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If yes, number present	3
Vulnerable Person(s)	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, provide details below:	

Other law enforcement personnel

	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, provide details		

Was the subject using or threatening to use a weapon of any sort?

	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Details of weapon(s)		

3. TASER AND USER CHARACTERISTICS

TASER Serial No.	X00-130537						
Barb Cartridge Serial No.	T08-1796794						
TASER Variant	X26 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M26 <input type="checkbox"/>						
TASER Officer position: (mark all that apply)	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Prone <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Sitting <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kneeling <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>AV/gunport <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Other</td> </tr> </table>	Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prone <input type="checkbox"/>	Sitting <input type="checkbox"/>	Kneeling <input type="checkbox"/>	AV/gunport <input type="checkbox"/>	Other
Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prone <input type="checkbox"/>	Sitting <input type="checkbox"/>					
Kneeling <input type="checkbox"/>	AV/gunport <input type="checkbox"/>	Other					

4. TASER DISCHARGE DETAILS

Approximate range to intended subject: metres

Details of TASER use (mark all that apply)

Drawn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aimed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	} Go to Section 5
Red dot <input type="checkbox"/>	Arced <input type="checkbox"/>	

Firing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	} Continue with Section 4
Drive-Stun mode <input type="checkbox"/>	

TASER Drive Stun and Firing

Drive Stun Mode

Application point

Successful stun application?

Yes No

Repeat application?

Yes No State how many:

Why did you opt for the drive stun mode rather than firing?

Application contact Points :
please list according to referenced zone on picture

Stun application zones

(please list ALL stuns
e.g. 1st = G, 2nd = 7)

Firing

Aim point

How many TASER barbs attached to intended subject

Both One None

Distance between barbs cm's

Did the TASER barbs contact any person other than the intended subject?

Yes No If yes, complete a separate form

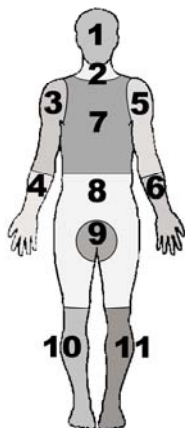
If TASER was fired unsuccessfully please state the reason why?

Barb Contact Points :
please list according to referenced zone on picture

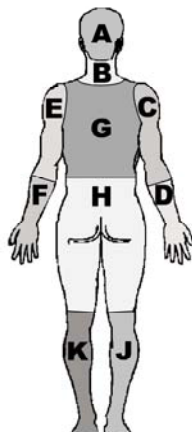
Top barb attachment zone e.g. 5

Bottom barb attachment zone

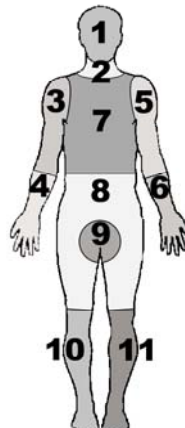
For additional cartridges used with this TASER go to the end of form



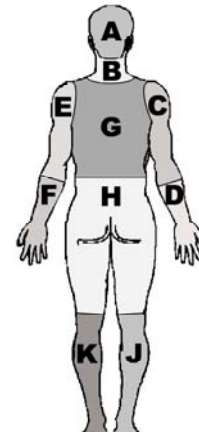
Front



Back



Front



Back

Clothing of subject hit:

Top:

Bottom:

Successful pulse discharge? Yes No

5 sec application interrupted? Yes No

Repeat cycle of same cartridge?

Yes No State how many:

For all firings/stuns please complete clothing details (left-hand side)



5. PRIME TACTICAL PURPOSE

Incident details:

Spontaneous Pre-planned

Reason for TASER use (tick all that apply):

Prevent offence <input type="checkbox"/>	Protect public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Secure evidence <input type="checkbox"/>
Effect arrest <input type="checkbox"/>	Effect search <input type="checkbox"/>	Prevent harm <input type="checkbox"/>
Prevent escape <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accidental <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove handcuffs <input type="checkbox"/>
Protect self <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suspected weapon <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>

Please state in your own terms why the TASER was selected for use during the incident

The animal is a large Ram and was running amok on the west bound carriageway on the A55. It was being chased by several persons and was making its way towards the fast moving East bound carriageway. Taser has been used to prevent the animal causing an accident and possible death.

6. SUBJECT BEHAVIOUR & RESPONSE

What behaviour was the intended subject displaying to prompt the firing of the TASER?
(please mark with an X all that apply)

	Yes	Toward police	Toward other(s)
Threatening behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violent behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agitator behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Suicidal /self-harming behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Escaping (evading/avoiding) behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>		

What other tactical and/or weapon options were used in conjunction with the TASER to prevent the subject from carrying out their intended course of action. (please mark with an X for all that apply)

Option	Available but not selected for use	Used prior to TASER	Used concurrently with TASER	Used following TASER
Verbal tactical communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Negotiation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogs:(Non-Compliant)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dogs:(General Purpose)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conventional Firearms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AEP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CS Spray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAVA Spray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water cannon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Batons (hand held)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: (State what)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If a TASER had not been available for this incident, what option would you have chosen instead?

N/A



Please indicate the level to which you agree with the following statements:

- “The **drawing** of the TASER alone (without requirement for firing/discharge or drive stun mode) was sufficient to dissuade the subject from carrying out their intended course of action.”

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree

Please explain the reason for your choice:

To prevent an accident and to help preserve life.

- “The physical effect following a single TASER **discharge** was of sufficient magnitude to prevent the subject from carrying out their intended course of action.”

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree

Please explain the reason for your choice:

The animal fell onto its side frozen and has tried to get up after the initial 5 seconds. It has received a second discharge and has been restrained on the floor.

- “The overall **duration** of the physical effect on the subject was of sufficient magnitude to enable tactical exploitation of the situation.”

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree

Please explain the reason for your choice:

N/A

- **For individuals acting in a group or a crowd (refer back to answer selected in Q2)**
“The use of the TASER was sufficient to enable tactical exploitation of the situation.”

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree

Please explain the reason for your choice:

N/A



7. POTENTIAL MODERATORS TO TASER EFFECTIVENESS

The effectiveness of the TASER may vary, depending on a number of factors or behavioural moderators; some of these are listed below. Please indicate if any of these may have been relevant, in addition to indicating whether the presence of this moderator was known to the firer, prior to TASER delivery.

	Yes	Known prior to TASER delivery
Alcohol:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drugs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Existing mental health disorder:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Existing medical condition:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychological factors (e.g. motivation / arousal):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Give details: N/A

Other:

Give details:

Identify any countermeasures which were used by the subject to modify the intended physical effect of the TASER:

N/A



8. CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

Please indicate the nature of all observable injuries sustained during the incident and provide details:

ADVERSE EFFECT TYPE	PRIMARY - as a direct result of the TASER current flow on the body	SECONDARY - as a result of an indirect delivery such as injuries from barbs or falls	COINCIDENTAL - injuries received in the incident not directly related to TASER use e.g. self-inflicted wounds, gunshot wounds, dog bites.
Adverse effect description	N/A	N/A	N/A
First aid given? (yes/no, delete as appropriate)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ambulance/medic treatment at scene?	N/A	N/A	N/A
Treatment required in hospital?	N/A	N/A	N/A

Barb removal: By whom Location

Subject detained in custody: Yes No

State location: Hospital Police Station
Other

Referral to FME during custody: Yes No

Medical Evaluation of subject conducted in custody: Yes No

ATTACH FME REPORT TO THIS FORM

Successful TASER Firings/Drive Stuns require the completion of a Force Medical Examination Form – THIS WILL NEED TO BE OBTAINED IN ALL CASES. If not obtained, please provide explanation:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please use this space to add any further comments you consider necessary (i.e. issues from debrief):

The use of the taser on this animal has aided in its capture resulting in both lanes of the carriageway becoming free flowing in a short space of time. It has also prevented the animal making across to the opposite carriageway and into the direct path of fast moving on coming traffic.



9. BREAKDOWN OF OPERATION FROM COMMENCEMENT TO RESOLUTION.

To be completed when TASER has been fired or used in drive-stun mode (this will be used as a basis for a brief to all forces and is MANDATORY). Incomplete forms cannot be accepted and will be returned. Please complete following The Conflict Management Model.

Whilst at the firearms base in St Asaph we have received information over the radio of an incident of a sheep stray on the A55 at junction 27.

A few minutes later whilst on route a further update has been received from the control room operator stating that a member of the public had hold of the sheep on the west bound off slip at the St Asaph business park.

As we have driven over the A55 flyover we have been stopped by a passing truck driver who has stated that there is a sheep loose on the carriageway causing havoc and he has pointed to the A55 west bound carriageway. Upon looking I could see both lanes of the West bound carriageway stopped just passed the on slip. I could also see that traffic was approaching and having to brake hard to come to a halt.

As I have approached the A55 I could see more traffic coming to an abrupt halt on this fast moving road. I could also see a male at the front of the traffic vigorously pointing towards the rear of the stationary traffic. I was unsure if he was pointing at the stopped traffic and the other traffic approaching or if he was pointing to the location of the sheep.

There were also several other persons out of there vehicles at this time trying to catch what I saw was a large Ram running loose on the carriageway. I could also see that the East bound carriageway was moving as normal with a steady flow of fast moving traffic.

I was second to alight the vehicle and could see that my colleague had made around to the front and had joined several other people in trying to capture the loose animal. As I have got out the Ram has made past me heading east and has made towards the central reservation in the direction of the opposite fast moving carriageway.

My thoughts were of the danger to the other road users and to ourselves and the other members of public now out of there vehicles on the road. I have considered the implications of an animal of this size making across to the other carriageway where it could have easily caused a traffic collision involving several vehicles and caused a possible loss of life.

With all these considerations in mind I have made the decision to self arm and at approx 14.50 hours I have drawn my X26 Taser and as the animal has neared the central reservation I have discharged the device hitting the animal in its Right side where it has immediately come to a halt on the grassed section of the central reservation and has frozen falling onto its Left side. The Taser has been left to

Additional Information

Notification made to IPCC?

Yes No

Investigating Body?

Case number

Notification made to Home Office?

Yes No

Force Medical Examiner Report(s) attached?

Yes No

Completing officers should email forms and FME to the Force TASER Liaison Officer to log, they will then refer to:

ACPO Firearmsacpo-firearms.cos.hq@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

HOSDBtaserforms@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

ACPO SDAR.....sdar.tasertrial@met.police.uk

ALL forms MUST go to HOSDB, preferably with download data in cases of firings and stun mode uses. All forms resulting from a firearms operation should be sent to ACPO Firearms. Taser use by firearms officers outside of a firearms operation and by specially trained officers should be sent to ACPO SDAR.

Additional Taser cartridge discharge details:

Please complete for all additional cartridges used with this Taser.

2nd cartridge details:

Approx. range to intended subject:

Barb Cartridge Serial No.

Aim point

How many TASER barbs attached to intended subject?

Both One None

Distance between barbs cm's

Did the TASER barbs contact any person other than the intended subject?

Yes No *If yes, complete a separate form*

If TASER was fired unsuccessfully please state the reason why?

Contact Points :

please list according to referenced zone on picture

Top barb attachment zone e.g. 5

Bottom barb attachment zone

3rd cartridge details:

Approx. range to intended subject:

Barb Cartridge Serial No.

Aim point

How many TASER barbs attached to intended subject?

Both One None

Distance between barbs cm's

Did the TASER barbs contact any person other than the intended subject?

Yes No *If yes, complete a separate form*

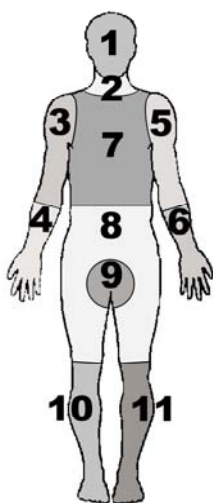
If TASER was fired unsuccessfully please state the reason why?

Contact Points :

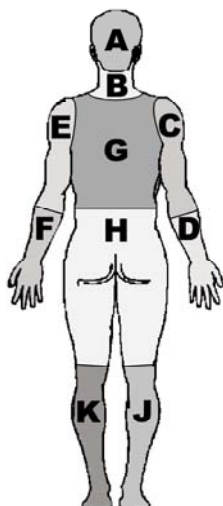
please list according to referenced zone on picture

Top barb attachment zone e.g. 5

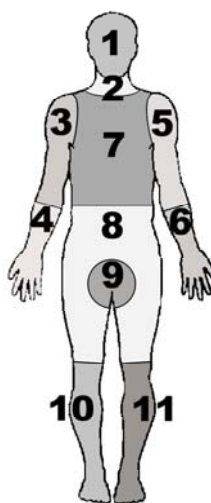
Bottom barb attachment zone



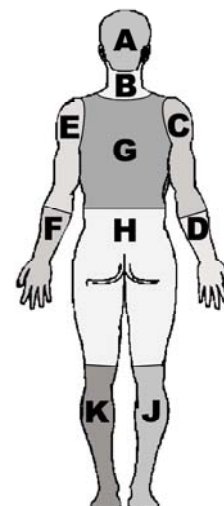
Front



Back



Front



Back

Successful pulse discharge? Yes No

5 sec application interrupted? Yes No

Repeat cycle of same cartridge?

Yes No State how many:

Successful pulse discharge? Yes No

5 sec application interrupted? Yes No

Repeat cycle of same cartridge?

Yes No State how many:

For additional cartridges please continue on a separate sheet

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I was second to alight the vehicle and could see that my colleague had made around to the front and had joined several other people in trying to capture the loose animal. As I have got out the Ram has made past me heading east and has made towards the central reservation in the direction of the opposite fast moving carriageway. My thoughts were of the danger to the other road users and to ourselves and the other members of public now out of there vehicles on the road. I have considered the implications of an animal of this size making across to the other carriageway where it could have easily caused a traffic collision involving several vehicles and caused a possible loss of life. With all these considerations in mind I have made the decision to self arm and at approx 14.50 hours I have drawn my X26 Taser and as the animal has neared the central reservation I have discharged the device hitting the animal in its Right side where it has immediately come to a halt on the grassed section of the central reservation and has frozen falling onto its Left side. The Taser has been left to run its full 5 second cycle. Whilst waiting for my colleague to make his way to the animal it has tried to get up and I have once again activated the device thus keeping it on the floor. My colleague has then grabbed the animal keeping it pinned to the floor.

We have then been joined by 2 members of the public and I have pulled the barbs out whilst the animal has been struggling. I could not see at this time if the barbs have come out of the animal due to its woollen coat. The 4 of us have then carried it across to the other side of the road where we have been joined by a local farmer who has offered to take the animal back to its owner.

I have informed the farmer that the animal has been Taser'd and to inform its owner and to check the animal in case the barbs were still in it.