



Home Office

**Information Access Team
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'HMP Britain'

request-18561-862a6cdf@whatdotheyknow.com

17th February 2009

Dear 'HMP Britain',

Freedom of Information request Internal Review

I am writing further to my e-mail of the 11th January 2010 in regards to your request for an internal review of our response to your Freedom of Information (Fol) request for the release of unpublished Taser statistics.

I have now completed the review and have examined all aspects of this request, including the information that was originally withheld from you. I have considered whether the correct procedures were followed and assessed the reasons why information was originally withheld from you under section 21(1) of the Fol Act. I can confirm that I was not involved in the initial handling of your request.

My findings are set out in the attached report. My main conclusion is that the original response from the Public Order Unit on the 15th October 2009, whilst helpful in identifying existing published statistics, did not fully address your request for the release of the unpublished raw data that is collected regarding each use of Taser.

As part of this review, I have reconsidered your request for the release of the unpublished data and I can confirm that the Home Office Scientific Development Branch (HOSDB) maintains a database that contains the raw data you have requested. As I have explained in the attached report, I have decided that we are unable to release this raw data as it would exceed the cost limit of s12(1) of the Act.

Despite this, HOSDB will be happy to discuss what custom reports you would like us to run so that additional figures can be released into the public domain. The Home Office recognises that there is extensive public interest in the police use of Taser and that figures regarding its use are made available.

This completes the internal review process by the Home Office. If you remain dissatisfied with the response to your Fol request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

*The Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF*

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the Home Office and for your patience in this matter. I hope our handling of your request has not caused you any undue inconvenience and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ian Lister', written in a cursive style.

**Ian Lister
Information Access Consultant
Information Access Team**