



Home Office

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Mr David Smith
request-714672-be376eb5@whatdotheyknow.com

28 January 2021

Dear Mr Smith

Freedom of Information request reference: 61845

Thank you for your e-mail of 29 December 2020 in which you ask:

“I would like to know the number of registrations so far made for deactivated weapons as required by the introduction of the 2019 acts, or any post amendments. What quantity are sent by traders and what are sent in by private owners.”

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The requirement to notify the Home Office as the ‘appropriate national authority’ of the possession or transfer of permanently deactivated firearms was introduced in December 2019 through the Firearms Regulations 2019 and the Firearms (Amendment) (No.2) Rules 2019 in accordance with the requirements of Directive (EU) 2017/853.

The Home Office does not hold information on the number of deactivated firearms notifications that were submitted by traders or by private individuals as there is no requirement for the person notifying the Home Office to also notify whether it is as a private individual or as a trader (registered firearms dealer).

I am able to disclose the following information.

As at 7 January 2021, we have recorded a total of **2,438 transfer** notifications and **5,199 possession** notifications. Notifications can be sent to the Home Office either by e-mail or by post. Given that Home Office officials have predominantly been working from home since March 2020 when the first national lockdown due to Covid-19 was introduced, it is likely that a number of notifications, sent by post, are awaiting processing. It is not possible to quantify this number.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to

foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference 61845. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

M Young
Serious Violence Unit