



Derbyshire Constabulary

Mr Paul McNamara
Open World News
9 Heneage Street
Spitalfields
London
E1 5LJ

Telephone: 101
Direct Line: 0300 122 8752
Ask For: Freedom of Information
Our Ref: 001565/13
Your Ref: Tasers on Animals
Date: 16 July 2013

Dear Mr McNamara

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - REFERENCE NO: 001565/13

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by Derbyshire Constabulary on 03/07/2013. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for information on the deployment of Tasers against animals.

More specifically I am requesting the following:

1 a) On how many occasions in 2013 (up until today's date 2 July 2013) was a Taser deployed against an animal. Please provide the species of animal as well as how the Taser was deployed (i.e. drive-stun mode, firings and incidents where the taser was drawn and aimed.)

b) Please also provide a summary for each incident.

Please could you also provide:

2) The same for 2012

3) The same for 2011

4) The same for 2010

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Derbyshire Constabulary to locate any relevant information. The searches located information relevant to your request.

Decision

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you in full.

Please see the below table.

Year	Circumstances
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police officers see male who they believe is wanted with dog on lead. Male runs off releasing dog which is aggressive as officers approach male. Taser drawn and dog red dotted - male instructed to regain control of dog which he does.
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armed police officers arc taser to scare away 2 x "Attack" dogs in a rear garden • Police dealing with routine incident are prevented from gaining access to premises by aggressive Pit Bull type dog "guarding" entrance. Taser arced to prevent dog attacking officers. Dog fled. • Police checking premises for wanted person are attacked by occupant's dog in garden. Taser arced to prevent injury to officers. • Very aggressive stray pit bull dog enters innocent household and attacks occupants. Occupants flee. Police and vet attend to despatch animal. Conventional methods of restraining dog fail. Taser x 2 fired into dog to incapacitate it to allow vet to administer lethal injection. • Police searching premises are faced with large aggressive dog. Taser arced to assist dog handler gain control of the dog, to allow search to continue.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x aggressive dogs attack police officers, biting one on leg. Taser arced by both officers which causes dogs to cease attack.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Officers executing search warrant at premises where dog is agitated and aggressive & owner struggling to keep control. TASER drawn as a contingency should dog attack officers, together with tactical communication for owner. Dog Officers took control of dog, no requirement to discharge TASER.

Right to Request a Review (Complaint)

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

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Derbyshire Constabulary.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer, on the above telephone number quoting the reference number in the header.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Lea
Freedom of Information Officer

Enc