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What is an AFO

What is an Authorised Firearms Officer?

Most police officers in the UK do not routinely carry firearms. When firearms support is needed, it is carried out by specially trained and accredited firearms officers known as authorised firearms officers (AFOs).

In the MPS, firearms support is primarily provided by MO19 Specialist Firearms Command. There are also firearms officers in a number of other divisions, such as Aviation Policing, Royalty and Specialist Protection Command, and the Parliamentary and Diplomatic Protection Command.

There are multiple levels of armed officers. Officers undergo rigorous selection and training to become a firearms officer. Their initial, and continued training, is dependent on the role they're operationally required to perform. All training is governed by the College of Policing's National Police Firearms Training Curriculum (NPFTC). The curriculum, in tandem with the Met's chief firearms instructor, ensures that the relevant training modules are completed by all officers within their specific role profile.

Examples of what an authorised firearms officer duties could include:

- Responding to high-risk incidents.
- Taking part in proactive policing operations where intelligence suggests firearms support may be required.
- Providing public reassurance at events.
- Providing enhanced and ballistic medical aid to help save lives.
- Working closely with partners, including the military.

Even though our armed officers attend thousands of incidents every year, their advanced levels of training in conflict resolution and de-escalation means that it is incredibly rare for an officer to have to discharge their firearm in order to achieve their policing aim. All firearms officers are trained to assess intelligence and threat assessments. They are accountable for any ballistic rounds that they may discharge in order to minimise any risk to the public.

Types of roles

Types of Roles

AFO/ARVO

An authorised firearms officer (AFO) is a British police officer who is authorised and trained to carry and use firearms. The designation is significant because most police officers in the United Kingdom do not routinely carry firearms.

SERT

The Special Entry & Recovery Team is a team that specialises in rapid-entry using special tactics ranging from rapid insertion and explosive method of entry to give a shock and awe tactic. They specialise in rapid-extraction of hostages and to protect key assets or items.

CTSFO (previously SFO)

The Counter Terrorist Specialist Firearms Officer qualification was established by the Metropolitan Police Service prior to the 2012 Summer Olympics. Since then the service replaced the SFO qualification with the CT-SFO qualification as a higher-degree.

IRT

The Intervention Response Team is a readily deployable team that is available at little or no notice to intervene high-risk threats to the public based on intelligence or spontaneous attacks.

CAT

The Counter Assault Team is a team of CTSFO's who are deployed to high-profile events whereby persons of substantial importance are present and there is a risk of attack on them. They will be proactively patrolling the immediate and surrounding area ready to prevent or intervene when necessary.

Chain of Command

Chain of Command

The Metropolitan Specialist Firearms Command has a separate chain of command than the Metropolitan Police where different command positions carry out different duties and have different responsibilities.

All members of the Chain of Command have the responsibility to lead and supervise Authorized Firearms Officers and carry out different duties. The positions within the Chain of Command is appointed based on the recommendation from others and decisions made by the Divisional leadership. Contrary to some belief SFCs out rank the Divisional Leadership during firearms incidents as they carry a higher level of authority.

- Divisional Lead
- Deputy Divisional Lead
- Strategic Firearms Commander (SFC)
- Tactical Firearms Commander (TFC)
- Operational Firearms Commander (OFC)

Different ranks can posses different positions such as Constables up to the rank of Superintendent can posses the position of OFC.

Tactical Firearms Commanders are members of silver command which has retained the rank of OFC and is deemed fit to possess a higher level of authority based on their leadership, command and firearms expertise.

Strategic Firearms Commanders are members of gold command with the exception of the Chief Superintendent and Divisional leadership, SFCs are the highest level of firearms commander within armed policing and have the authority to approve certain interventions that are only used as an last resort.

Equipment

Epaulette
To Identify your FIN and Rank

Force Radio
Set up on the force frequency to Met Control

AXON Flex 2 Body Camera
Used to record incidents to provide evidence in court and provide video recording for investigations

Handcuffs
Used to restrain a subject

PAVA Spray
Used to incapacitate and temporarily irritate someone's eyes

Sidearm Holster
To secure your firearm for easy and rapid deployment



Blue Cap
To easily identify firearms officers during incidents and regular duties

Firearms Radio
Set up on the firearms frequency

Ballistic Vest
To protect the officer from ballistic rounds. Also carries the officer's equipment such as rifle and pistol magazines

X2 Taser
Used to incapacitate a subject

Baton
Used to strike a subject or shatter a vehicle's window

Equipment List

AFOs carry an arrange of weapon, Each weapon part of the kit has a specific purpose it serves to assist the AFO when they are carrying out their duties as a Authorized Firearms Officer.

ASP Baton
Expandable
Baton



PAVA Spray
Incapacitant
Spray



X2 Taser
Conducted
Energy Device



Glock 17
Self Loading
Pistol



SIG 516
Semi Automatic
Rifle



SIG MCX
Carbine



Benelli M4
Semi Automatic
Shotgun



H&K 69A1
Baton Launcher



How to get equipment

AEP Baton Gun - This is located in your ARV boot. You hold Z or Alt -> Open Vehicle Boot -> Weapon Menu -> AEP Launcher

Enforcer and **Halligan** are located in the same menu as the AEP Launcher

Ballistic Shield - This located in your ARV boot -> /shield Firearms2 or Firearms

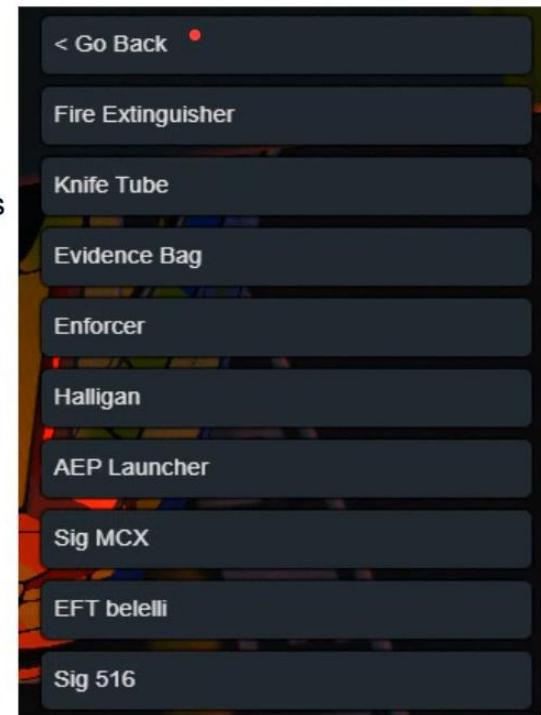
Firearms - You can obtain these through F1 -> Player Related Options -> Weapon Options

Glock 17G5 - Handguns -> Combat Pistol

SIG 516 - Assault Rifles -> Carbine Rifle Mk II or ARV boot

SIG MCX - Assault Rifles -> Carbine Rifle or ARV boot

Benelli M4 - Shotguns -> Pump Shotgun or ARV Boot



Non-Lethal Options

Conducted Energy Device (CED)

PURPOSE

CEDs are primarily designed to be laser-sighted and use cartridges attached to a cartridge bay located at the front of the device. When the trigger is activated the cartridges eject a pair of probes attached to insulated wires. When the two probes make contact with the subject, the device delivers an electrical discharge that lasts for five seconds. This cycle can be stopped, extended or repeated.

EFFECTS

During the discharge the subject may:

- Not be able to control their posture - consider risk of injury from an uncontrolled fall.
- Experience their legs going rigid, which could be mistaken for kicking out (especially if they are in prone position).
- Convulse, curl up in a ball, spasm, or stiffen (plank).
- Experience intense pain.
- Not be able to respond to verbal commands during the discharge.

USE

A CED is a less lethal weapon system designed to temporarily incapacitate a subject through use of an electrical current that temporarily interferes with the body's neuromuscular system and produces a sensation of intense pain.

Attenuating Energy Projectiles (AEP)

PURPOSE

The approved AEP (designated as L60A2) is fired from a 37mm breech-loaded weapon. The approved launcher is the Heckler and Koch L104A2, equipped with an approved L18A2 optical sight. The projectile has been designed with a nose cap that encloses a void. This design feature is intended to attenuate the delivery of the impact energy by extending the duration of the impact and minimising the peak forces. It thereby delivers a high amount of energy to maximise its effectiveness, while reducing the potential for life-threatening injury. AEP is intended to provide officers with a less lethal use of force option for use when appropriate and proportionate.

EFFECTS

The expected reaction of a person being hit by a AEP round is extreme pain or being winded depending on where the round hits.

USE

The AEP is used to dissuade or prevent a potentially violent person from their intended course of action, thereby neutralising the threat. AEP use will be informed by reference to the National Decision Model (NDM).

Firearms Information

Firearms

A firearm is a barreled ranged weapon that inflicts damage on targets by launching one or more projectiles driven by rapidly expanding high-pressure gas produced by exothermic combustion (deflagration) of a chemical propellant, historically black powder, now smokeless powder.

Modern firearms can be described by their caliber. For pistols and rifles this is given in millimeters or inches (e.g. 7.62mm or .308 in.), or in the case of shotguns by their gauge (e.g. 12 ga. and 20 ga.).

They are also described by the type of action employed (e.g. muzzleloader, lever, bolt, pump, revolver, semi-automatic, fully automatic, etc.), together with the usual means of deployment (i.e. hand-held or mechanical mounting).

Further classification may make reference to the type of barrel used (e.g. rifled) and to the barrel length (e.g. 24 inches), to the firing mechanism (e.g. matchlock, wheellock, flintlock, or percussion lock), to the design's primary intended use (e.g. hunting rifle), or to the commonly accepted name for a particular variation (e.g. Gatling gun).

UK Firearms Legislation

In the UK, a firearm does not have to use a combustible propellant, as explained by Crown Prosecution Service Guidance Firearms The Firearms Act 1968 Section 57(1B), uses the definition of a firearm as a "lethal barreled weapon" as a "barreled weapon of any description from which a shot, bullet or other missile, with kinetic energy of more than one joule as measured at the muzzle of the weapon, can be discharged". As such, low-energy air rifles and pistols also fall under UK firearm legislation, although the licensing requirements of low-energy weapons are more relaxed.

Ammunition

Ammunition

Conventional metallic, centrefire, bulleted cartridges consist of four constituent parts: a cartridge case, propellant powder, a primer and a projectile. The primer, which acts as the ignition system of the cartridge, sits in the base of the cartridge case; the propellant is housed inside the cartridge case; and the projectile sits in the cartridge case mouth.

It should be noted that 'bullet' and 'projectile' should be regarded as interchangeable.

On firing a bulleted cartridge, the cartridge case expands slightly, forming a tight gas seal at the rear of the barrel. This helps to maintain sufficient pressure to propel the bullet down the barrel at optimum velocity.

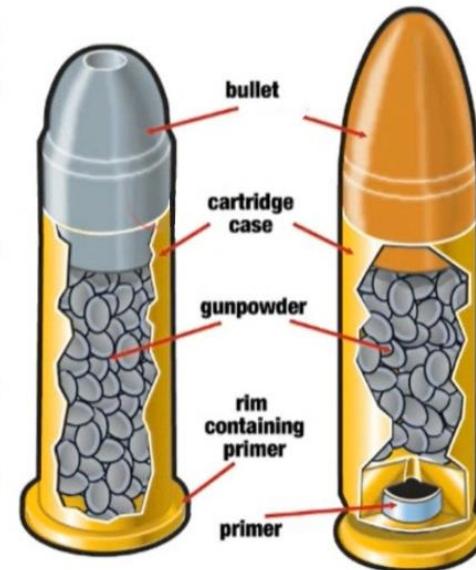
Calibres

There's two parts for a bullet to cause damage: the Weight (mass) and the Speed (velocity). Cartridges are measured not just by width (calibre) but also by length.

So because the bullet is going down range much faster, the 5.56mm round has almost 3 times the energy of a 9mm pistol round. The 7.62mm NATO round has over six times the energy.

Centrefire

In a centrefire metallic cartridge, the firing pin strikes the primer in the centre of the base of the cartridge. The priming composition explodes and a jet of flame passes through the flash hole in the cartridge case and ignites the propellant powder within the body of the cartridge case. The propellant powder burns, producing a large volume of gas. This expanding gas pushes the bullet out of the cartridge case and down the barrel of the firearm.



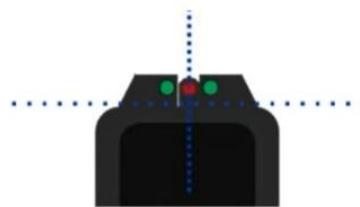
Ballistic Target Designation

Ballistic on Targets

When we are aiming our firearm towards a target, it is important that we aim for centre mass as that is the most suitable and quickest way to disarm a threat. We do not want to be aiming the arm or legs as that is a smaller target and more likely to miss and ricochet or hit a innocent target.

We do not want to be shooting a target in the head simply because that is the quickest way to neutralise a threat as we have to abide by Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights which protects each person's Right to Life by law.

To change between the Single Shot, Burst Fire, and Full Auto fire rates, press "K".
FULL AUTO IS NOT PERMITTED



CENTRE MASS SHOTS

Aim

Align your Rear Sight Aperture with your front post horizontally and vertically.



Code of Practice

Code of Practice

The code of practice states that the lead chief officer must review and complete APSTRA to establish the link between the threat from the criminal use of firearms and a force's ability to respond effectively to that threat. Forces are required to produce an annual armed policing strategic threat and risk assessment (APSTRA). The APSTRA will be reviewed at least every six months, but should be continually monitored and utilised to inform armed policing capability and capacity in response to local, regional, and national developments and requirements.

Force APSTRAs will be used to create aggregated, collaborative, and national APSTRAs. The purpose of the APSTRA is to establish the operational requirements for armed policing and less lethal options within the applicable force or region.

The strategic threat and risk assessment (STRA) will inform decisions to be made with regard to the appropriate:

- Armed policing deployment profile across the force (or relevant area).
- Armed policing capability.
- Armed policing firearms policy and training future armed policing demands and threats.

Standing Firearms Authority

Standing Firearms Authority

Standing Firearms Authority (SFA) is the continued deployment of Firearms (Ex. rifles). SFA is authorised for firearms incidents when a Firearms Commander deems it absolutely necessary that the continued deployment of firearms is essential to protect life and prevent harm to members of the public and police officers.

Armed Response Vehicles have on a normal basis SFA to allow them to be equipped with firearms. However, this does not mean AFOs can walk around with rifles visible and use them when they seem fit. Instead, this allows AFOs to be equipped with weapons and authority to carry them, however it's up to OFCs, TFCs, and SFCs to make the decisions if the deployment of rifles or other weaponry is necessary.

AFOs do *NOT* possess the authority to grant SFA during a firearms incident. SFA must be authorized by a Tactical Firearms Commander (TFC) or above, or by Operational Firearms Commanders under certain circumstances when it is deemed an absolute necessity and there is no TFC on duty able to authorise it.

Examples of when SFA would or wouldn't be requested:

- Shots fired at police - Yes
- Hostage situation - Yes
- Male armed with a firearm in a public place - Yes
- Reports of a firearm without intel or brandishing - No
- Fl markers on a vehicle with no intel - No

SFC

Critical Shot

TFC

Standing Firearms Authority

OFC

Deploying AFOs

SFC - Strategic Firearms Commander

TFC - Tactical Firearms Commander

OFC - Operational Firearms

Commander

Self Authorisation of Side Arm

Self Authorization of Sidearm

AFOs have the authority to deploy and discharge their firearm if they deem it necessary based on the presence of a threat to life or threat of grievous bodily injury where the only option to stop such threat is the use of lethal force.

AFOs are accountable at all times for their actions and must justify the deployment and discharge of their firearm.

Deploying your sidearm should always be a last resort to your use of force, and the deployment (drawing your sidearm) is a use of force in itself. The discharging of a firearm by an AFO is always the last resort to stop a direct threat to life and AFOs should always aim for other less lethal options before resulting in the deployment and/or discharging a firearm.

This should not be confused with the Standard Firearms Authority

Examples where Self Authorisation can be seen as a necessity:

- Presence of a firearm.
- Bladed article can be visibly seen.
- Direct threat to life being possed.

Rifle Deployment

Rifle Deployment

During certain firearms incidents, the deployment of your rifle is deemed necessary to achieve the policing aim and neutralize any threat to life being posed. An example of such an incident might be a suspect has been seen carrying a firearm or larger bladed article such as a machete or axe.

AFOs do NOT have the authority to deploy rifles during incidents and this has to be done by a TFC or OFC depending on the situation.

However during such incidents when an AFO believes that the deployment of rifles is a must to achieve their policing aim and it is not possible to request authorization and seeking authorization would be detrimental to the public or officer safety they may deploy their rifle, however such actions must be justifiable at all times.

An OFC has the authority to authorize the deployment of rifles in situations when they deem it an absolute necessity for the deployment of rifles, This can only occur if there is no TFC on duty being able to Authorise SFA or Rifle Deployment.

Operational Priorities

Main Objective

The objectives of most operations involving AFOs are to identify, locate, contain and neutralise the threat posed. While conflict management within the police service normally aims to manage/minimise threats, the degree of threat justifying the deployment of AFOs is such that it must be neutralised (i.e. ensuring no continuing threat exists).

Constable Duties

It is the duty of the police service to safeguard the public. However, police officers must not be expected to endanger their own lives or the lives of their colleagues in ill-considered attempts at rescue, or to effect an early arrest.

Use of Force

In keeping with the principles of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), the rights of all people must be considered, including those of the subject. However, potentially lethal force may be used if it is absolutely necessary for the legitimate aims outlined in Article 2 of the ECHR.

Preservation of Life

Whilst an armed subject's right to life must be given due consideration, the lives of members of the public and police officers must not be placed at greater risk in an effort to save the life of someone carrying out a criminal or terrorist act likely to cause loss of life or serious injury.

Deployment of AFOs

Authorisation for the Deployment of AFOs

AFOs are considered as being deployed when they are required to conduct a specific task during which the possession of a firearm, with appropriate authorisation, is a required element. This includes when they self-deploy as provided under the guidance set out in the APP (AP). Firearms officers are routinely deployed for D13 Medical Assistance in non-firearms related incidents, AFOs are expected to respond if requested or its a Category 1 call and they are in the area.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| A
Reason to Suppose | → Where the officer authorising the deployment has reason to SUPPOSE that officers may have to protect themselves or others from a person who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Is in possession of, or has immediate access to, a firearm or other potentially lethal weapon, orIs otherwise so dangerous that the deployment of armed officers is considered to be appropriate; or |
| B
Operations | → As an operational contingency in a specific operation based on threat assessment; or |
| C
Animals | → For the destruction of animals which are dangerous or are suffering unnecessarily. |

Self Deployment

Where AFOs encounter a situation where they believe that the criteria for deployment of AFOs has been met, and delay in seeking authority to deploy would be detrimental to public or officer safety, officers should deploy and take the necessary and appropriate action in accordance with their training.

The use of the words 'reason to suppose' sets the level of knowledge required (about the existence of a threat justifying the deployment of AFO) at a far lower level of probability than that which would actually justify the use of firearms.

Incident Response

Responding to Incidents

When responding different situations each of them require different police resources trained to deal with them. AFOs only deploy to incidents when the criteria of the deployment of AFOs has been met and it's an incident only officers armed with a firearm can deal with. When encountering different incidents, the usage of force and equipment vary from situations based on threat posed. AFOs may respond to incidents they encounter whilst on active patrol, however the relative division should be requested to assist and take over as soon as possible.

Handling Different Incidents

Dangerous Animals - Usage of Shotgun (Secure scene first).

Unarmed Suspect - Takedown or PAVA (If the subject is noncompliant).

Suspect Armed with a Bat - Call for Taser equipped assets.

Suspect Armed with a Brick - Call TSG (Firearms assets do not deploy).

Suspect Armed with a Knife or Machete - Call VCTF if available, however if subject is in possession of a machete this will be deemed an armed deployment.

Suspect Armed with a Firearm - Deploy Sidearm (Rifles or AEP Baton Launcher if SFA is authorised).

Suspect Armed with an Explosive - Stay back and call for Counter-Terrorism Assets, MO19 to attend and assess the scene and establish a cordon, if no CTSFO/SO15 are available then liaise with TFC/SFC.

Suspect Armed with a Potential CBRN(e) Item - Stay back and call CRBN(e), if equipped with mask and suitable PPE then establish a cordon.

Mobile Armed Support for Surveillance

Mobile Armed Support to Surveillance (MASTS)

Mobile Armed Support to Surveillance known as MASTS, is the Metropolitan Police armed surveillance teams which provide armed support to police surveillance operations, when it is deemed necessary to have armed officers provide surveillance.

MASTS Officers are AFOs dressed in plainclothes, equipped with firearms and utilize covert vehicles to carry out armed surveillance duties and assist other divisions such as SO15 Counter-Terrorism Command and Criminal Investigation Department with surveillance operations.

MASTS has to be authorized by a TFC prior to the deployment of a MASTS team, and is only deployed when surveillance of those deemed to be especially dangerous and potentially armed and regular unarmed surveillance would pose an increased risk for surveillance officers and members of the public.

MASTS Officers do, on occasion, carry out operations and enforced stops, however prior to such actions being carried out it has to be authorized.

CTSFO

Counter-Terrorism Specialist Firearms Officers (CTSFO)

The CTSFO unit was established in 2012 by the Metropolitan Police, they are the highest qualified and trained Authorized Firearms Officers within the United Kingdom. Applicants go through a rigorous selection and training process to become a CTSFO Officer.

CTSFO Officers are held to the highest of standards when it comes to firearms knowledge and expertise. In the United Kingdom, police forces have their own CTSFO teams as part of the regional CT hubs which together form the CTSFO Network which can respond to terrorist incidents all across the UK.

CTSFO's identities remain confidential due to their sensitive work and training in regards to national security reasons, hence why you will never see a CTSFO's face or know their identity.

Command and Control

Generic Command Structure

Firearms operations often form one part of a more complex, multifaceted operation. It is, therefore, important to define the command of the firearms element through the use of functional descriptors. The descriptors used throughout this module are:

Strategic Firearms Commander

The SFC is responsible and accountable for the policing of the operation. He or she will determine the strategic objectives, provide overall command responsibility throughout the operation, as well as communicates with and updates those below them on assessments and available intelligence. The commander will also coordinate with other staff, partner agencies and commanders.

Tactical Firearms Commander

The TFC establishes a command structure, assigns taskings, assesses the risk of the operation to determine safety for officers and members of the public, assess available information and intelligence to evaluate threat and vulnerabilities as well as manages and coordinates partner agencies and departments.

Operational Firearms Commander

The OFC understand the SFCs strategic objectives and the TFC tactical plan to implement them, utilises available information provided by a higher commander to deploy available resources effectively and ensures deployments of AFOs are aligned to the deployment plan and overarching tactical plan.

Command of a firearms operation, whether spontaneous or pre-planned, must be an immediate and integral consideration within any police response.

Awaiting command badges

It is essential at all times that the Firearms Commander is clearly identified. Senior officers and specialist support personnel who attend the scene should report to the PIO in the absence of the TFC at the scene. Unless they take over the role of TFC or SFC, they must act under the directions of the TFC, irrespective of rank.

Rendezvous Point (RVP)

RVP

A Rendezvous Point is a designated location to allow officers and commanders to pre-plan, brief, and kit up as necessary in order to correctly execute their orders as an AFO.

Spontaneous Firearm Incidents

An incident that takes place without warning, the circumstances of which demand that armed support to the initial police response must be considered.

Pre-Planned Firearm Incidents

An incident where information is gathered about something that will or may happen in the future, thereby providing time to plan and develop an appropriate armed response or take other action to mitigate the threat

Force Management System (FMS)

Force Management System

The Force management system (FMS) is a system used to track the handout of firearms to Authorized Firearms Officers. The system tracks the time the AFO retrieved their firearm and handed it back in. AFOs are required to fill out a FMS at the start of the shift at the firearms armory located inside the firearms base before they retrieve their firearms. The hand in time is filled out at the end of your shift.

This system also allows activity to be tracked within MO19.

Failing to fill a full FMS out after a shift may cause disciplinary action to be taken against you.

FMS Format & Example:

Name: WINKLEFORD

FIN: 111SX

Date: 09/01/2023

Weapons Retrieval Time: 16:34

Weapons Hand In Time: 20:57

Weapons Issued: Glock 17Gen5, Taser X2, Sig MCX, AEP

Weapons Handed in: Glock 17Gen5, Taser X2, Sig MCX, AEP

Deployment Logs

Deployment Logs

A deployment log (DEPLOG) is where AFOs involved in deployments have to document what occurred on the incident, a deployment log has to be written ~~within 24 hours~~ of an incident and is required to be written by an AFO or Firearms Commander who was on scene:

- Deployed their AEP
- Self Authorized their sidearm.
- Any other Incidents where a firearm was deployed or discharged.

Deployment logs are not written on normal incidents, such as traffic stops, where no weapons were involved.

Deployment Log Format:

Date of Incident:

Approx. time of first call:

End time of Incident:

Officer(s) Involved:

Who granted SFA:

Time of SFA:

What exactly happened:

Weapon deployments (Include who, what weapon and whether they discharged):

Extra notes:

Post Incident Procedure

Criteria to Start a Post-Incident Investigation

Post-Incident Investigations will commence in all situations where there has been a discharge of a firearm by the police including those of conventional weapons, less lethal weapons, or specialist munitions, whether intentional or unintentional, which has or may have:

- Resulted in a death or serious injury.
- Revealed failings in command.
- Caused danger to officers or the public.

Purpose of a PIP

The purpose of a PIP is to ensure that any weapons that were discharged were discharged ethically, lawfully and within the criteria for the deployment of AFOs to meet the interests of the public, police, and everyone involved in the incident. If the discharging of firearms failed to meet this criteria or ethical standards are not met, this will need to be thoroughly investigated by the Directorate of Professional Standards (DPS).

Performing a PIP

An OFC or above should complete the PIP. They will gather all the firearm officers who discharged their weapon and complete the following questions. They will build up a story of what happened and investigate discrepancies if something is not correct.

- Confirm the Weapon that was Discharged
- Confirm how many rounds were discharged
- Confirm how many rounds were on target
- Confirm the legal reason for shooting

On completion of a PIP the OFC will advise the officer to dekit your Tactical Uniform, Medical Equipment, Firearm(s), and Radio

Misconduct Investigation

Criteria to start a potential Misconduct Investigation

In the events where the following have occurred, an investigation will be commenced:

- Criminal offences committed in a public office.
- Failure to abide by outlined standard operating procedures for Armed Policing.
- Failure to listen to commands from a superior officer.
- Caused danger to officers or the public.

Appointment of DPS Officer

An appropriate authority must appoint a person to investigate the matter related to firearms and must have the appropriate level of knowledge, skills, and experience on managing the investigation. Firearms Investigations are investigated by an Directorate of Professional Standards (DPS).

Referral of Case to Misconduct Proceedings

If the Investigation finds misconduct or an offence has taken place, the DPS officer will take the appropriate disciplinary actions. This may include removal of someones Firearms Ticket, AFO Advanced Driver Ticket or D13 Ticket, it's up to the DPS officers to decide which disciplinary action is appropriate to the offences or misconduct taken place. If a criminal offence took place, the DPS officer will refer the case to the Crown Prosecution Service for prosecution.

Legislation and Legal Powers

Legal Framework

Despite making important and often time-critical decisions, police officers are still accountable through the law for their actions. Respect for an individual's human rights should be the central focus throughout the entire policing process. All officers have an individual responsibility for ensuring that they are aware of relevant legislation, and are informed about the extent of their legal powers and the context within which those powers can be properly exercised. Police forces should continually identify any relevant legislation for the continued professional development of firearms commanders and authorised firearms officers (AFOs).

When police are required to use force to achieve a lawful objective, such as making a lawful arrest, acting in self-defence or protecting others, all force used must be reasonable in the circumstances. Use of force by police officers can result in judicial proceedings in both the criminal and civil courts. In cases where death has resulted, a public inquest or other inquiry will be held by the coroner or other officer. Every effort should be made to resolve a situation without resorting to the use of force or firearms, however, the overriding consideration should be a human rights-based approach to public and officer safety.

The standards of professional behaviour set out in the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020 address the responsibility of police officers to abide by all lawful orders. The police service is a disciplined body. Unless there is good and sufficient cause to do otherwise, officers must obey all lawful orders.

Police and Criminal Evidence Act

Under Section 117 of PACE an appointed constable has the right to use reasonable force. This can only be used when you are using another PACE power

Criminal Law Act

Under Section 3 of CLA a person may use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders or of persons unlawfully at large.

Common Law

The right of self-defence is recognised in common law. This includes the right for a person to use reasonable force to protect themselves or another where necessary. The law does not require persons to wait until there has been an assault before they take action. If you have an honest held belief that you or another person are in imminent danger you may use such force as is necessary to avert that danger.

Use of Force (PLAN)

Use of Force

All police actions must have a legal basis and should not interfere unnecessarily with an individual's human rights and freedoms. The mnemonic PLAN is a useful tool for those involved in the tactical planning process:



Proportionate

Is the use of force legitimate and reasonable. An example would be if a person is unarmed, would you bring gun to a fist fight?



Legal

Is your actions within your police powers or other legislations that permit you to take action as a constable?



Accountable

Are you accountable for that action? Hint: YES. You are **ALWAYS** accountable for your own actions.



Necessary

Is the use of force necessary based on the threat or use of force your being met with?

Firearms Act 1968

Firearms Act 1968

General Restrictions

Section 1 - Requirement of firearms certificate

Section 2 - Possession of a shotgun without a certificate

Section 3 - Business and other transactions with firearms and ammunition

Section 5 - Weapons subject to general prohibition (Pistols, Rifles, Submachine guns, CED etc.)

Prevention of Crime and Preservation of Public Safety

Section 16 - Possession of a firearm with intent to Injure

Section 16A - Possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear or violence

Section 17 - Use of a firearm to resist arrest

Section 18 - Carrying a firearm with criminal intent

Section 19 - Carrying a firearm in a public place (Any place the public may have access to, eg public parks, public roads, stores etc.)

Section 20 - Trespassing with a firearm

Section 24 - Supplying firearms to minors

Law Enforcement Powers

Section 46 - Powers to search with a warrant

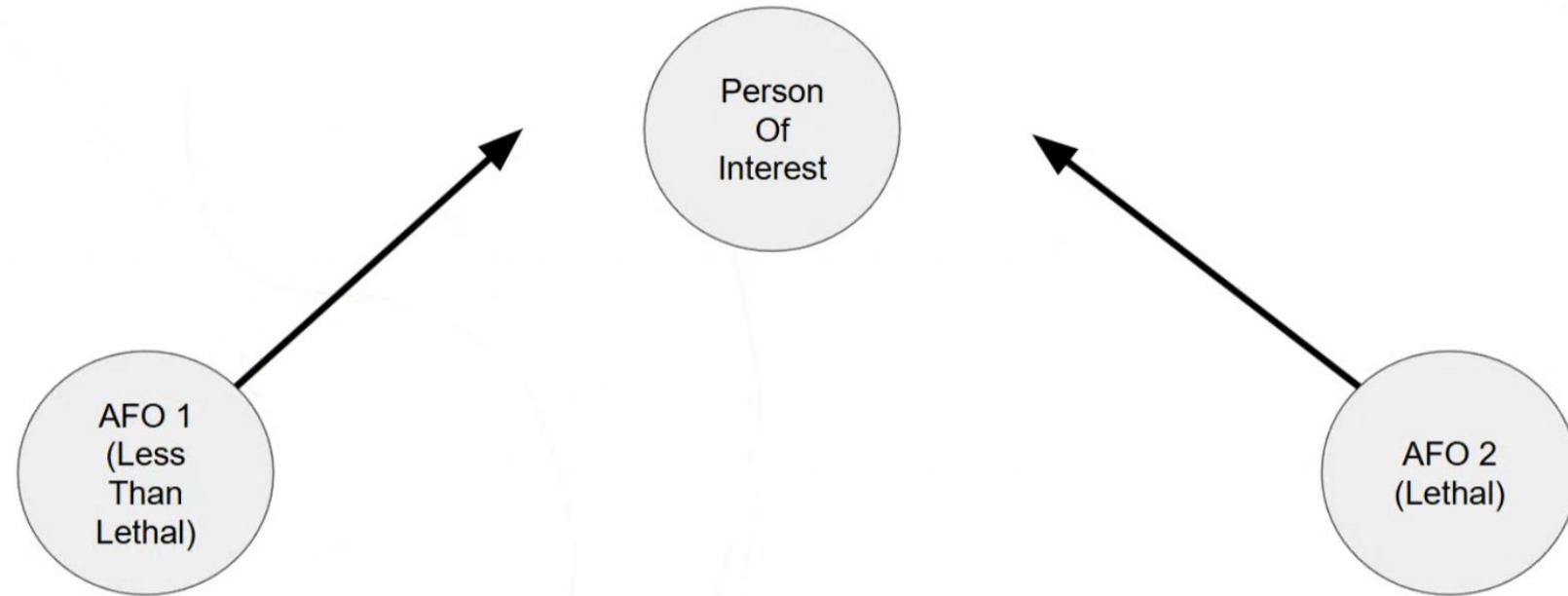
Section 47 - Powers of constables to stop and search (Reasonable cause to suspect a person is in possession of a firearm or ammunition)

Section 48 - Production of certificates (Allows constables to demand the production of a firearms certificate per S1 and S2 of this act if they suspect someone being in possession of a firearm regulated under this act)

Miscellaneous

Section 57A - Exception for airsoft guns

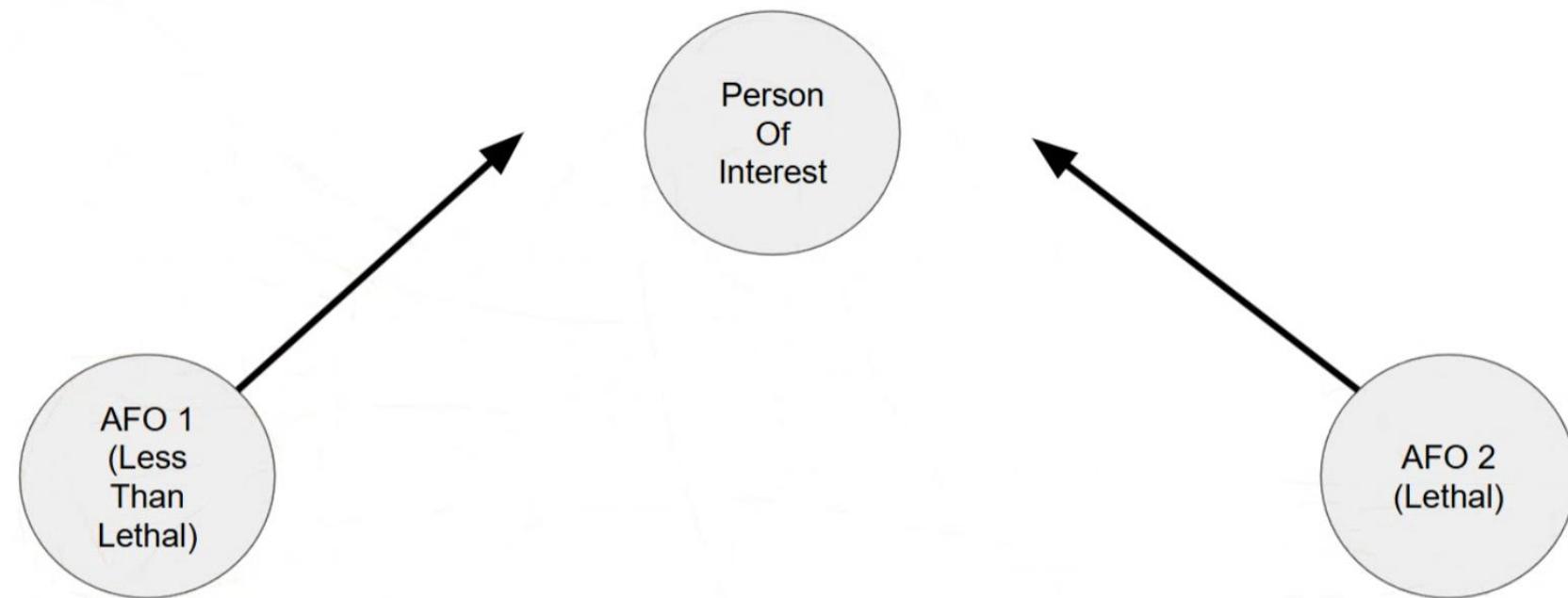
Pedestrian Tactics Armed Enquiry



Both AFO's position themselves so that they can both see the POI's hands. The AFO's should make themselves known to the POI and begin enquiries. Should the POI need to be placed in handcuffs AFO 1 should do the cuffing. Both AFO's should have weapons held but not aimed at the POI. This can also be conducted without weapons held, but readily available.

Specialist

Pedestrian Tactics Armed Intervention



Both AFO's position themselves so that they can both see the POI's hands. The AFO's should make themselves known to the POI and begin demands i.e "PUT IT DOWN". Should the POI need to be placed in handcuffs AFO 1 should do the cuffing. Both AFO's should have weapons aimed at the POI should they need to discharge.

Building Orientation

Building Orientation - Window



White 1-1

White 1-5

White 2-1

**APERTURES =
SIDE + FLOOR + WINDOW NUMBER
ALWAYS NUMBER LEFT TO RIGHT**

Building Tactics - CQB Search

- All AFO's should be able to perform an correct stack and know how to clear a room to the best of their abilities. The video on the right will explain the roles of each person in an stack and what their responsibilities are within the room.

Of course all rooms are different and will never be the same so that is your responsibility to adapt to the situation and be able to still clear the room correctly and safely without putting anyone else at danger.

You should always remember crossfire.

Remember to always identify anyone you come into contact with as it may be a civilian or it could be another member of your team that has entered from another location.

When you do clear a building you always make sure to detain everyone within the building for your own safety. Once the building is clear you gather further information and determine who needs to be let go and who doesn't.

