



**28 July 2016**

## **Statistical News Release: Police use of firearms statistics, England and Wales, April 2015 to March 2016**

The Home Office published today the latest official statistics on police use of firearms in England and Wales.

The release contains statistics on the total number of police firearms operations, including operations involving Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs); incidents in which police firearms were discharged; and authorised firearms officers in the year ending March 2016.

The statistics show that in the 43 Home Office funded police forces in England and Wales:

- There were a total of 14,753 police firearms operations in the year ending March 2016. This represents a slight increase of 68 (0.5%) police firearms operations when compared with the previous year.
- In the year ending March 2016, 85% of firearms operations involved Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs), compared with 84% in the previous year.
- There were seven incidents in which the police discharged firearms in the year ending March 2016, up from six incidents in the previous year.
- There were 5,639 authorised firearms officers (AFOs) on 31 March 2016; a decrease of eight AFOs when compared with the previous year.

### **Notes to editors**

1. 'Police use of firearms statistics, England and Wales, April 2015 to March 2016' is available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-use-of-firearms-statistics>.

### **Press enquiries**

For media enquiries, please call the Home Office newsdesk on 020 7035 3535.

This line operates Monday to Friday, 7am to 8pm. Urgent calls outside these hours can be made to a pager service on 07659 174 240.

The Home Office press office only deals with enquiries from the media.

### **Other enquiries**

If you are not a member of the media, please use the Home Office public enquiries line: 020 7035 4848.