

FIREARMS PORTFOLIO

Looking back on my report from last year, it bears a similar look to this year's. The pandemic and world events have had an effect on our work place and latterly on the priorities of MOD. Recent events have shown that our officers can and will be involved in high profile events where they have been the subject of the threat and may need to use the less than lethal or lethal options that are available. The MDP primary task remains protective armed policing and security of critical defence assets making counter terrorism one of our core taskings and most important.

Countering traditional threats such as protest organisations and the general policing of our workplaces continue. Potential threats to the MOD and our other customers from Organised Crime Groups and extremist groups of varying methodologies are also prevalent. The threat of low complexity attacks of simple sophistication and hostile reconnaissance continue against us. `Vloggers` have been particularly active in recent months. Members will be aware of the rise of incidences in the latter, with the use of drones becoming common. MDP continues to provide mutual aid to our Home Office colleagues on a regular basis and have had important roles in international events that were held in this country.

Over the past year and looking to the next, the following objectives will complete or continue towards completion:

X2 Taser Conversion (replacing the X26 Taser) to include Standalone Taser Officer (STO) role

C8 carbine rollout to become the single carbine in Force use

Completion of the Glock handgun rollout

Introduction of Body Worn Video for all Authorised Firearms Officers

Replacement of the current ballistic helmet and body armour

Personal issue eye/ear protection

In recent months there have been changes in Senior Management within the MDP Firearms Portfolio. We wish those that are moving on all the best for the future, and we look forward to continuing with the good working relationship with their successors.

This Federation proudly acknowledges the work done by our members over the past year and hope that you are proud as well of the support that you provide for each other and the service given to all of our customers and the country as a whole.

Mick Reynolds

Firearms Portfolio Holder

NEC