Freedom of Information request ref 01/FOI/26/4245
We received your request on the 03/06/2026.

Request

You asked us:

I'm requesting data on children under 18 who have had a Taser fired at them (meaning the probes were deployed) by officers at your pole force between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2025.

Please provide the following, broken down by calendar year in a table:
1. The total number of children under 18 who had a Taser fired at them in each year.
2. The child's self-defined ethnicity (White, Black, Asian, Mixed, Other, or Not Stated).
3. The total number of incidents where the child was aged 10 or under, and the total aged 11 to 17.
4. The recorded reason the Taser was fired (for example: serious or aggravated resistance, aggressive resistance, active resistance).
5. Whether the child was found to be carrying a weapon, and if so what type.
6. Whether the child sustained an injury, and if so what type.

On points 2 and 3: Looking at previous FOI's I know some forces have declined to provide ethnicity and age data on the grounds it could identify a child.

To be clear, I'm only asking for aggregate totals, not individual records.

That's not personal data under section 3(2) of the Data Protection Act 2018, and it wouldn't meet the ICO's motivated intruder test for identification. Several other forces have already provided exactly this, and I'm happy to share examples of how they've done it.
If complete records aren't held for the full period, please provide whatever is held within the date range.
If the full request would exceed the Section 12 cost limit, please prioritise points 1 and 2. Everything else can be dropped if needed.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Our response:

Question 1 – 4.

The data was extracted from the Chronicle system, an approved secure database system that was previously used for Use of Force monitoring.

Please note that three submissions have been excluded from the table below.

Of these three submissions, two related to unintentional Taser discharges where there was no subject involved (as the incidents were not in public). However, as there was no separate form available at the time, the officers completed a Use of Force form and entered the incident date in the DOB field.

The third submission related to an intentional firing. In this case, the officer recorded the subject's age range as 0–10 after mistakenly entering the incident date in the DOB free-text field. The subject was an adult at the time of the incident.

Year	Primary conduct / behaviour of subject	Perceived age of subject	Was Subject Injured	Self Defined
2024	Serious or aggravated resistance	11-17	Unknown	Not a recording requirement at time
2024	Passive resistance	11-17	Minor Injury	Not a recording requirement at time

Question 5-6.

Information not held.