

**Title: Police Use of Firearms**

Policy owners	Joint Strategic Firearms Command Group ACC Joint Protective Services
Policy holder	Superintendent – Specialist Ops
Author	Inspector – Firearms Training

**Approved by**

Legal Services	26 September 2016
Policy owner	7 October 2016
APP	26 October 2015

Publication date	23 October 2018
Review date	23 October 2020

**Note:** Please send the original Policy with both signatures on it to the joint CPU for the audit trail.

## Legal Basis

*(Please list below the relevant legislation which is the legal basis for this policy). You must update this list with changes in legislation that are relevant to this policy and hyperlink directly to the legislation.*

### **Legislation specific to the subject of this policy document**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Act (title and year)</b>
39 and 39A	<a href="#">Police Act 1996</a> under which the Codes of Practice on the Police Use of Firearms are made
73	<a href="#">Police Act 1997</a>

### **Other legislation, which you must check this document against (required by law)**

<b>Act (title and year)</b>
<a href="#">Human Rights Act 1998 (in particular A.14 – Prohibition of discrimination)</a>
<a href="#">Equality Act 2010</a>
<a href="#">Crime and Disorder Act 1998</a>
<a href="#">Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and associated Regulations</a>
<a href="#">General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018</a>
<a href="#">Freedom Of Information Act 2000</a>
<a href="#">The Civil Contingencies Act 2004</a>

## Other Related Documents

- Joint Firearms Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA)
- National Police Firearms Training Curriculum (NPFTC)
- ACPO Authorised Professional Practice (APP)
- Joint Firearms Training Standard Operating Procedures Manual

## 1 Introduction

1.1 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies provide an armed capability to assist at incidents involving subjects who are considered so dangerous and violent that the issue of firearms and or less lethal options is considered necessary. Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies will only arm officers who have undergone a specific selection and training programme. Each Authorised Firearms Officer (AFO) will be equipped in accordance with their training and role. AFOs will be required to maintain specific levels of training and fitness in order to maintain their status.

## 2 Content

2.1 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been produced as a result of a review of all existing firearms policies detailing service policy in respect of procedures, roles and responsibilities for the management of firearms operations, and all other associated firearms matters.

2.2 The contents of the SOPs comply with and should be read in conjunction with the guidelines set out in the Code of Practice on Police Use of Firearms and the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (APP).

2.3 The SOPs cover the following:

- Governance
- Recruitment and Selection of Firearms Officers and Commanders
- Fitness to Perform Firearms Duties
- Training
- Armoury
- Operations
- Post-Incident Procedures

2.4 They do not include issues surrounding the licensing of legally held firearms or the gathering of intelligence relating to the criminal use of such weaponry.

2.5 The policy and standard operating procedures, in relation to the Police Use of Firearms, are owned by the Joint Strategic Firearms Command Group, implemented and reviewed under the direction of the Assistant Chief Constable, Joint Protective Services.

2.6 The SOPs are held by Firearms Training, Specialist Operations Department.