

REQUEST

I am sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act to ask for the following information:

- 1) How many schools in London requested a handheld knife wand from The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in the years:
 - a. 2017
 - b. 2018
 - c. 2019 to date
- 2) How many schools in London received a handheld knife wand from The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in the years:
 - a. 2017
 - b. 2018
 - c. 2019 to date
- 3) How many schools in London requested a knife arch to be installed from The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in the years:
 - a. 2017
 - b. 2018
 - c. 2019 to date
- 4) How many schools in London received a knife arch from The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in the years:
 - a. 2017
 - b. 2018
 - c. 2019 to date
- 5) If possible within the cost limit could you breakdown the responses to all above questions by the number of:
 - a. Secondary schools and;
 - b. Primary schools

RESPONSE

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 September to the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC). I confirm that your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and that MOPAC does not hold the information requested for the following reasons:

The Mayor of London made a commitment in his Knife Crime Strategy to provide knife wands to any school that requests one. MOPAC provides funding to the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) for the purchase of knife wands. The operation to process the requests, allocate and distribute the wands is led by the MPS.

Safer Schools Officers (SSO) are the first point of contact for schools to request a knife wand. Schools that don't have an allocated SSO can send an expression of interest for a knife wand to MOPAC, which is then directly forwarded to the local MPS Youth Supervisors for them to action.

As a result, MOPAC doesn't hold information on the total number of knife wand requests or the number of wands deployed, because it only receives a proportion of the total requests. The

MPS is responsible for distributing the wands and monitoring how many are at schools at any one time. MOPAC doesn't provide knife arches.

The MPS may be able to assist you and you can send your request to them, here:

<https://www.met.police.uk/rqo/request/ri/request-information/rip/request-information-police/>

If you are unhappy with the response to your Freedom of Information requests, please see the MOPAC website on what the next steps are at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/governance-and-decision-making/freedom-information>