

I wish to make an application for statistical information relating to AGS referrals under Sec 102(1) GS Act and notifications made by the AGS Commissioner to GSOC in relation to the discharge of firearms and/or less-lethal devices, (similar to the information contained in 'FOI Response No 14 of 2020') from 01/05/2020 to date.

In particular I am looking for details of incidents where an investigation has been initiated under the provisions of Sec 102(1) or Sec 102(4) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, from 01/01/2023 to date and whether any 'systemic recommendations' from 01/05/2020 emanated from those investigations.

1. Notifications arising from use of firearms and less-than-lethal devices from 01/05/2020 to 16/03/2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Lethal Firearm	3	6 (2 accidental)	0	2 (1 accidental)	0	11
Less Lethal Firearm	5	15	6	14	5	45
Taser	32	28	23	37	9	129
"Production" of Firearm - no discharge	0	3	0	0	0	3
Total	40	52	29	53	14	188

2. Statistics for referrals (S102(1)) arising from use of firearms and less-than-lethal devices from 01/05/2020 to 16/03/2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Lethal Firearm	3	0	0	1	0	4
Less Lethal Firearm	0	0	0	0	1	1
Taser	0	0	0	0	0	0
"Production" of Firearm - no discharge	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	0	0	1	1	5

3. Details of incidents where an investigation has been initiated under the provisions of Sec 102(1) or Sec 102(4) following discharge of firearms and/or less-lethal devices for 2023 and 2024.

1 incident where an investigation has been initiated under the provisions of Section 102(4) relating to the discharge of a firearm (November 2023)

On the 8th November 2023, between 06.30hrs and 07.30hrs, a white DAF goods truck was taken from outside a garage at Healy's Shop, The Pike, Clonakilty, Co. Cork. The truck was encountered by Garda Units in West Cork and it failed to stop when indicated to do so. The vehicle travelled to Cork City and entered Dwyer's Electrical, Forge Hill.

Garda patrol cars tried to contain the vehicle but were rammed by the truck. A responding ASU garda member discharged a single round at the cab of the truck, striking the windscreen. The driver, [REDACTED] then immediately complied, put his hands in the air and exited the vehicle under direction of Gardaí through the passenger's door. The driver was subsequently arrested and conveyed to Bandon Garda Station.

1 incident where an investigation has been initiated under the provisions of Section 102(4) relating to the use of a baton (March 2024)

An Annex 2 Form (use of force report) was emailed on behalf of [REDACTED] Clondalkin GS to GSOC, through the info mailbox on the 06.03.24.

The form pertains to an incident that occurred in Circle K, Kennelsfort Road, Palmerstown, Dublin 20 on the 02.03.24 @ approx. 18:35

The details are as follows:

"Gardaí were dispatched reports of a robbery in progress where it was reported that the offender had produced and was in possession of a knife and still in the store. On arrival at scene a number of people were outside holding the door closed. The offender was standing in the cashier's area, behind

the counter. [REDACTED] entered the store and extensive damage to the interior of the shop and droplets of blood on various parts of the store's floor. [REDACTED] who was in uniform identified himself to the offender who was acting in an aggressive manner and was holding a shiny metal object in his hand.

[REDACTED] directed the offender a number of times to discard the item, which he failed to do. Fearing for his safety [REDACTED] was required to deploy his OC spray and his baton in order to subdue the offender and to get him to discard the item before he could be properly restrained and handcuffed."

4. Details of Systemic Recommendations which have arisen from the above 2 mentioned investigations.

No Systemic Recommendations have yet arisen from the 2 investigations which initiated under the provisions of Sec 102(1) or Sec 102(4) following discharge of firearms and/or less-lethal devices for 2023 and 2024.