



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 379/2021

Request:

Advertising firearms for sale/transfer via the internet as part of a business but without the business owner actually owning the firearms (ie via Gunstar Guntrader etc) appears to be the subject of different interpretations and I am contacting the English Police Forces to obtain a firm view on how this is treated by the various Police Areas

Could you please advise what laws you apply to this type of activity, whether you would insist the Website owner held a RFD authority and needed to record all transfers and any dispensations that might be available to avoid this, or direct me to regulations which enable these websites to operate without the need for Dealer authorisation.

Response:

I can confirm that there is no information held by Dyfed-Powys Police due to the fact that the information requested is not specifically recorded by the force. However, I can advise the following -

“The law that relates to this subject is the Firearms Act 1968 as amended with reference to the Guide on Firearms Law 2016: A dealer is defined at Section 57(4) of the Firearms Act 1968 as a person or a corporate body who, by way of trade or business: manufactures, sells, transfers, repairs, tests or proves firearms or ammunition to which section 1 of this Act applies, or shotguns; or sells or transfers air weapons.

An advertising platform, is just that, an advertising platform. It is the individual Registered Firearms Dealer (RFD) who places the advert and it is that RFD who is obliged to comply with the rules for any subsequent transaction.

The advertising platform is not controlling or directing the possession of a firearm and therefore they do not require to be registered as a firearm dealer.”

Therefore, Dyfed-Powys Police does not hold any specific information because the law does not create a situation whereby this would occur.

It should be noted that as a result of the systems adopted by Dyfed-Powys Police in relation to the recording of such information that the information released may or may not be accurate.