



Home Office

Nick Hurd MP
Minister of State for Policing and the Fire
Service
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
www.gov.uk/home-office

Daniel Kawczynski MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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I would like to clarify my response to the Parliamentary Question you asked on 26 October about whether any civilian target shooting club in the UK is approved by the Home Office to use armour-piercing or explosive ammunition (PQ 109587).

In my reply of 1 November I said that a small number of shooting clubs are approved to use **firearms** which use armour-piercing ammunition. My reference to firearms was intended to cover the fact that a small number of target shooters have personal certificates which allow them to target shoot with rifles which may have been designed originally to use such ammunition. For avoidance of doubt I should have also made clear that all armour-piercing and explosive ammunition is subject to a general prohibition and can only be possessed with the authority of the Secretary of State under section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968. No such authority has been granted for the use of such ammunition by civilian target shooting clubs.

I would like to apologise for any confusion my initial response may have caused please accept my assurance that there was no intention to mislead. I will arrange for an amended reply to be published in Hansard and a copy of this letter to be placed in the House library.

Nick Hurd MP