



DATE:	13 April 2018	FOI REQUEST NO:	337_1718
<p>I am enquiring today in order to receive information on current PPE trials being carried out across the service delivery patch.</p> <p>I have noticed that some media outlets have photographed firefighters wearing different helmets, namely the MSA Gallet F1 XF and the Rosenbauer Heros Titan.</p> <p>South Wales Fire & Rescue Service (SWFRS) is committed to providing its operational staff with the very best personal protective equipment (PPE). Trialing of this PPE is based on a pre-planned basis and largely focused on an 'end user' engagement. Firefighters will be invited to take part in trials and will wear the respective PPE in various scenarios best matched to the conditions they would be expected to encounter during day to day activities. The results of these trials are analyzed and matched to a scoring criteria declared in the tender pack, a decision is then made as to the preferred manufacturer.</p> <p>The majority of these trials are now undertaken on an 'All Wales' format thereby engaging with a larger percentage of the workforce and creating a collaborative approach to larger purchases.</p> <p>SWFRS are constantly looking for feedback on all items of PPE used by operational personnel whether new or old, although this does not constitute a trial. There will be, on very rare occasions a small number (less than 0.5%) of the workforce that may require a different PPE, be it helmet, safety boot or glove. The main reasons for these differences are varied and often dictated by an individual's personal and/or physical requirements specific to a certain item of PPE. All the PPE allocated and being used within SWFRS is certified to the correct EN standard.'</p>			