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Operational and Non Operational MPS Successes and Good News

MPA

Metropolitan Police Authority

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Operational and Non Operational MPS Successes and Good News

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18 April
Violent Crime Directorate/ Brent
Morning raids uncover firearms and drugs

500 officers from across the Met executed search warrants at 20 addresses in Brent.

So far, 17 arrests (15 men and two women) have been made as a result of the ongoing proactive, intelligence-led operation (Operation Saunton).

The operation was designed to arrest those people police believe to be involved in a range of crime including firearms offences, drug dealing, handling stolen property, and vehicles.

To date officers have recovered five firearms, a silencer, several large quantities of drugs, ammunition, cash, credit cards and, stolen cars.

Officers from Brent Borough were supported by colleagues from the Violent Crime Directorate (VCD), the Territorial Support Group, the Specialist Firearms Operational Command Unit (CO19), the Specialist Crime Directorate and Safer Neighbourhoods teams.

17 April
Barking Flying Squad, CO19,
Four men jailed for attempted robbery

On 9 October 2006, in a joint operation, officers from the Flying Squad at Barking supported by Finchley, and SFO teams from CO19 arrested four people who were in the process of committing an armed robbery on a cash in transit van.

James Sellers and James Hare were seen on a stolen high-powered bike at the Dagenham Bowl Complex in Dagenham, monitoring the Securitas CIT van. As the guard approached the van, Sellers put a gun to his head and stole the box containing £14,000 before making his getaway on the bike.

At this point CO19 officers conducted an armed intervention on the bike, and on Chris Wilby and Frankie Black who were waiting nearby in a getaway car.

On 13 April 2007 all four pleaded guilty at Snaresbrook Crown Court to armed robbery and firearms offences. Sellers and Hare were sentenced to six years imprisonment and Wilby and Black received three and a half years.

17 April
Clubs and Vice
Three Arrested for conspiracy to control prostitution

Officers from the Clubs and Vice Unit have arrested three people on suspicion of conspiracy to control prostitution for gain and trafficking women within the UK for prostitution.

The arrests, made in Victoria, follow months of surveillance under Operation Lirio.

Other premises in South Kensington were also raided as part of the operation and eight women were recovered from these addresses.

Both the Victoria and South Kensington premises are believed to have been operating as brothels.

All the women were taken to a police station where they will be given the opportunity to see health professionals, interpreters and specially trained sexual offences investigators.

17 April
Harrow
Three jailed for violent robberies

Three men have been jailed for a series of violent robberies, kidnaps and burglaries in Harrow.

All of the offences took place between August and September 2006.

Darren Louis received a four-year sentence, Dwayne Nugent received an indeterminate sentence with a minimum of 42 months' imprisonment and Larry Da Silva also received an indeterminate sentence to serve a minimum of 43 months' imprisonment.

All three pleaded guilty to charges of robbery, burglary and kidnap.

The defendants assaulted their victims, forcing them into a car and demanding their PIN numbers. They would also demand to know where the victims lived so they could steal property from there too.

Nine other offences of robbery, kidnap and burglary were taken into consideration.

The men were identified following intelligence and forensic investigations conducted by the Harrow Priority Tasking Team and Territorial Policing (TP) Crime Squad (North).

17 April
Operation Maxim
Five jailed for producing illegal passports

Five men involved in the illegal production of identity documents have been jailed following an investigation by Operation Maxim officers.

The men, all of whom pleaded guilty, were jailed for a total of 12 years and nine months.

They were arrested after officers launched an operation (Op Figural) in January 2006. Following searches in two addresses in North London, officers uncovered a range of false identity documents being prepared on demand.

The documents found during the operation were mainly Eastern European passports but also included Danish, Greek, Italian and Belgium.

- Jevgenij Jersov (four-and-a-half years)
- Alexandru Vlaicu (three-and-a-half years)
- Radu Doska (one year), Sergiu Milenti (one year)
- Alexandr Stepancuic (two years and nine months)

The judge recommended that all the men be deported at the end of their sentences.

17 April
Flying Squad in Finchley
Cash-in-transit robbers jailed

Three men have been jailed for their involvement in a cash-in-transit robbery in Enfield.

Wayne Marshall was jailed for an indeterminate period and the two other men, who cannot be named for legal reasons were jailed for four and seven years respectively.

Police believe the men to be responsible for 13 separate cash-in-transit robberies.

Officers seized cars used in the robberies from the defendant's addresses and seized over £16,000 in cash.

16 April
Specialist Crime
Criminal network arrests

Officers from the Special Intelligence Section have disrupted a cocaine network.

Under Operation Puntly, officers have charged eight people and seized over 30 kilos of cocaine and approximately £800k in cash. An imitation handgun, money counting machines, large quantities of cutting agents and cannabis were also discovered.

16 April
Tower Hamlets
Crime Squad success

The Crime Squad in Tower seized 120gms of cocaine, 1,000 ecstasy tablets, 60g of ecstasy crystal, 700g of amphetamine, 200ml of ketamine and a quantity of crystal meth, following an intelligence led operation in the Weavers area.

Also seized in the operation were a large quantity of cash, electrical goods, a Chrysler Crossfire and a quantity of artwork.

A 44-year-old man was arrested and charged on 12 April with six counts of possession with intent to supply and POCA offences.

16 April
Lambeth Sapphire Unit
Men found guilty of rape and false imprisonment

Idris Adeokun and Emmanuel Garrick were both recently found guilty of rape and false imprisonment against two young women.

They were both given an indeterminate sentence under the Public Protection Act and must serve a minimum of seven years in prison for the first victim and a minimum of six years in prison for the second victim before being considered for parole.

This is to run concurrent on each of the four rape charges and the false imprisonment is to be taken into account.

A third man, James Olamrewaju who was found guilty of two counts of rape and one count of false imprisonment was also given an indeterminate sentence and will not be eligible for parole for six years. This is to run concurrent on each charge and the false imprisonment is to be taken into account.

The fourth man, Jayce Baptiste was sentenced to five years for one count of rape and one of false imprisonment, to run concurrently. He must serve half of that sentence and will be released on licence for the remainder of his term.

16 April

Brent Priority Crime Unit

Man charged with perverting the course of justice

A 25-year-old man was charged with four counts of theft and one count of perverting the course of justice.

Dipeck Rabadia was arrested on suspicion of theft from an employer and perverting the course of justice following information gathered during an investigation.

Rabadia initially alleged that two men had robbed him at knifepoint outside his place of work. After an extensive investigation, it was discovered that the allegation was false and had been concocted by Rabadia in an attempt to cover up the theft of £8,000.

13 April

Wandsworth's Sapphire Unit

17 year old sentenced for rape of 28 year old woman

A 17-year-old youth has been sentenced to six and a half years imprisonment at the Inner London Crown Court (ILCC) having been found guilty of the rape of a 28 year old woman in July 2006 on Clapham Common.

12 April

Men charged following Kennington raid

Following a raid at a former Rastafarian Temple in Kennington last week, three men have been charged.

- 48-year-old Fitzroy Pommel, who has been charged with conspiracy to supply Class C drugs and two counts of possession of ammunition;
- 40-year-old Jahlaw Salassie has been charged with conspiracy to supply Class C drugs; and
- 45-year-old Roderick Green who has been charged with conspiracy to supply Class C drugs.

All three men appeared in custody at Camberwell Green Magistrate Court on 14 April.

Two other men remain in custody pending immigration matters and four men were cautioned for possessing cannabis.

Eleven other people have been bailed to return pending further enquiries.

4 April
Lambeth
Dwayne Reid sentenced for shooting a police officer

A man has been imprisoned at the Inner London Crown Court for the shooting of a Lambeth police officer, and other firearm offences.

Dwayne Reid aged 23, from West Norwood was found guilty of GBH with intent, possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and possession of a firearm whilst prohibited to do so.

Reid was found guilty on 13 February 2007 following a trial at the Inner London Crown Court and received eight years for possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and 12 years for possession of a firearm whilst prohibited to do so - to run concurrently.

This means that under the law, Reid must serve a minimum of five years and 315 days before he can apply for parole.

4 April
Corruption Unit
Man sentenced for Money laundering

The Met Police's Proceeds of Corruption Unit have secured their first conviction and sentencing.

Joyce Bamidele Oyebanjo, aged 40, from Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, was sentenced to three years imprisonment, at Southwark Crown Court, having been found guilty of taking £1.4m from Nigerian State funds.

Oyebanjo was investigated by the Metropolitan Police Proceeds of Corruption Unit, which was specifically created to investigate the laundering of criminal funds in London by corrupt overseas officials.

The Unit is part funded by the Department for International Development through an anti-corruption project overseen by Hilary Benn MP. The Unit has now restrained £34.6 million. This money represents corrupt proceeds laundered through the UK's financial system. Where monies can be identified as having been stolen from a particular country, and those countries are often some of the poorest in the world, every effort will be made to return the looted assets.

4 April
Transport OCU
203 arrests made from Desert Horse operations

The combined success of the Transport OCU's Desert Horse 1 & 2 operations, which disrupted crime and disorder on bus routes in North West and South West London, has led to 203 arrests.

The most recent operation netted 95 arrests over an eight-day period. The operation was split into two phases of four days, and concentrated on the 207 bus corridor, which runs from Shepherds Bush to Uxbridge.

59 people were arrested for during the first phase and 36 people were arrested during the second phase for various offences including firearms offences, assault, criminal damage, forgery, possession of drugs and even a murderer.

There was also evidence of a big reduction in street crime on Hammersmith and Ealing OCUs and criminals associated with the route were aware of Transport OCU's impact.

The previous operation, Desert Horse 1, netted 108 arrests – 46 in its first phase and 62 in its second phase.

A variety of tactics were used for the operations such as high-visibility patrols using Transport OCU uniformed officers and Transport OCU Traffic Police Community Support Officers.

The operation also employed plain-clothes Transport OCU officers accompanying Transport for London Revenue Protection Inspectors who checked for fare evasion. This is a successful practice as it often reveals that many people who commit fare evasion are wanted for other crimes.

3 April
Kingston
Robberies in South London - Two found guilty

Two men were found guilty at Kingston Crown Court on March 28, 2007 for a spate of violent robberies throughout South London over eight months, following a five-week trial.

Daniel Fuller, aged 25, from South Norwood was found guilty of conspiracy to rob and one charge of blackmail. He will be sentenced on 25 April 2007.

Amariah Linton, aged 26, from Bromley pleaded guilty to conspiracy to rob on the first day of the trial, 26 February. Linton will be sentenced on 17 April 2007 at Kingston Crown Court.

It follows an 18 month long investigation by Kingston CID, led by DS Simon

Harding.

Fuller and Linton targeted working brothels in Kingston, Twickenham, Wimbledon, Catford and Southwark, during the period of June 2005 - February 2006.

Often armed with hammers and baseball bats, Fuller and Linton terrified the vulnerable women who worked in the brothels into handing over personal property such as cash and mobile phones, threatening extreme violence in some cases.

3 April
Specialist Crime Directorate
Two men sentenced for false imprisonment

Anthony Young, a builder from South West London and Lloyd Duncan, a ticket promoter also from South-West London have been found guilty of false imprisonment at the Inner London Crown Court (ILCC), following an investigation by Streatham CID.

They pleaded not guilty to false imprisonment and kidnap when the trial began on 19 March 2006.

There was a hung jury regarding the charge of kidnap. The judge ordered the offence to lie on file.

2 April
Addison Ward SN team
Crack house closure in Hammersmith and Fulham

On 22 March, officers from the Addison Ward SN team, assisted by Drugs Squad and Response Team officers in Hammersmith and Fulham, successfully raided a busy crack house on the Charcroft Court Estate.

Three men and a woman were arrested on the premises and over 60 rocks of crack cocaine was seized, along with a quantity of heroin and a large amount of cash.

PC Caroline Viner (Drug Squad) put together the covert operation as a result of intelligence gathered by PC Helen Patton (Addison SNT).

Detective Superintendent Cassidy granted a closure notice that day and within 24 hours, PC Patton had successfully applied for a full closure order from West London Magistrates' Court. Exactly one week later the venue has been fully secured and closed for business.

2 April
Belgravia Priority Crime Unit
Knifepoint robber jailed

Anthony Woods, a 43-year-old from SW1, has been jailed for an indefinite period for a string of knifepoint robberies.

Woods targeted lone women after dark and threatened them with a knife before demanding money and personal property.

He will be able to apply to the parole board after a minimum of four years, although the Judge implied that Woods should serve a period of eight years' imprisonment.

2 April
Ealing
Man jailed for seven years for GBH, ABH and robbery

A 29-year-old man from Southall was sentenced to seven years imprisonment for the attacking his 31-year-old former employee with a kirpan, who quit to work for another builder.

Sukhvinder Dass was found guilty of GBH, ABH and robbery.

2 April
Bromley Sapphire Unit
Man sentenced for knife point sexual assault in Crystal Palace Park

A 45-year-old man was sentenced on 30 March 2007 at Croydon Crown Court to an indeterminate period in prison for public protection for the knifepoint rape of an 18-year-old man in Crystal Palace Park on 29 July 2006. He must serve a minimum of five and a half years before he is eligible for parole.

Roy King from West Norwood was also sentenced to three years for sexual assault and two years and two months for failing to notify police of a change in his sex offender status, these sentences to run concurrently.

30 March
Brent Robbery Unit
Replica firearm and CS spray seized during Op Jhabbra

In the early hours of 29 March, 21 officers including those from CO19 (Firearms Unit), Brent CID and uniformed officers, raided the Stonebridge Estate with a warrant for the arrest of two individuals suspected to have carried out three robberies where a black handgun was used.

Firearms officers entered an address and arrested two individuals in connection with the robberies. CID officers then conducted a search where they recovered CS Spray and what is believed to be a replica black automatic handgun.

Two teenagers aged 15 and 16 were arrested for the three robberies, possession of CS spray and possession of an imitation firearm. They were taken to Wembley Police Station and later bailed to return in May 2007.

30 March

Tottenham Green SN team tackle use and supply of drugs

Tottenham Green Safer Neighbourhoods team have worked in partnership with Haringey Neighbourhoods management and Haringey enforcement officers to tackle premises involved in the use and supply of drugs.

SN Team consultation with the community highlighted concerns that businesses had been supplying drugs in West Green Road for a number of years. Three premises were identified in West Green Road.

The partnership approach resulted in a period of enforcement. Drugs were recovered from all addresses. Thousands of pounds were seized from persons linked to the addresses and outstanding fines were enforced against occupants.

Haringey Council issued enforcement notices against free holders and leaseholders and police informed the owners of the illegal activity.

A successful operation has led to what should prove to be a long-term solution to this problem.

30 March

Paddington SN Team and Clubs and Vice Unit

Kerb crawling operation in Westminster

Metropolitan Police officers from Paddington Safer Neighbourhoods Team and the Clubs and Vice Unit have been taking on the kerb crawlers who think they can 'get away with' kerb crawling in the borough of Westminster.

Operation Pela targeted kerb crawlers in the Paddington area between 27 March and 29 March and saw a number of officers working through the night, arresting a total of 14 men on alleged kerb crawling offences.

Fourteen men have subsequently been charged.

30 April

Redbridge

Ilford drug raid

Police have carried out a significant raid on a nightclub in Ilford following intelligence to suggest the sale of Class A drugs in the area.

Officers from Redbridge, working closely with their Met colleagues from the

Territorial Support Group (TSG), conducted the raid on Thursday 29 March 2007 following weeks of meticulous planning.

The intelligence-led operation saw officers execute a search warrant, under the Misuse of Drugs Act/Anti-Social Behaviour Act, at Faces nightclub in Gants Hill.

Eleven people were arrested in connection with the raids and a quantity of Class A drugs were seized. Those arrested remain in custody at East London police stations.

The operation was designed to clamp down on Class A drugs being bought and sold in the Gants Hill area and officers will now seek the relevant authority to keep Faces nightclub closed for the foreseeable future.

19 April
PM congratulates Met staff

Prime Minister Tony Blair issued the following message to all MPS staff regarding crime figures:

"I would like to congratulate the Metropolitan Police on today's crime figures. London is a safer place with over 62,000 fewer victims of crime this year. The number of violent crimes is down and thanks to the hard work of police and communities across the capital using tough new laws, gun crime is declining. Londoners also welcome the increased number of police officers and neighbourhood policing teams. This is the fourth year in a row that crime in London has fallen."

17 April
Lewisham SN team donate to local church

New Cross Safer Neighbourhoods team in Lewisham recently presented a cheque for £1,900 to Deptford Churches Centre.

The centre in Speedwell Street Deptford was founded in 1979 by members of local churches in response to the vacuum created when a large hostel in the area was closed. They aim to provide for those adults over 16, with intractable problems, a place in which by receiving care and support, they can survive on a day-to-day basis.

The centre has developed a unique approach with its service users. Its strengths over the past 25 years are based on its non-judgemental stance, offering warmth and comfort to all, particularly those who are vulnerable through homelessness, mental ill health, loneliness and severe poverty.

The amount of £1,900 had come from the Prisoners Property Act Fund, which auctions off unclaimed recovered stolen property.

PCs Neil Hartley and Derek Barham presented the cheque to Stella Brown, the centre's manager.

17 April
The Met Intelligence Bureau is launched (MIB)

The launch, at Cobalt Square was attended by the Commissioner who was met by Assistant Commissioner Steve House, and Dr Nina Cope.

A ribbon was cut to mark the event and then a presentation was given by MIB Commander DCS Martin Hewitt that set the context of the MIB within the wider ICPT Programme, and also provided an update on current and future activity.

The Commissioner was then taken on a guided tour and had the opportunity to meet and speak to members of the MIB Implementation Team and also staff from other MIB units.

17 April

Bowes SN team and Volunteer Cadets clean up the ward

Officers from Bowes Safer Neighbourhoods team are getting on top of one of their ward priorities this week with the help of the Enfield Borough Volunteer Cadet Corps.

Residents on the ward highlighted fly tipping and litter to the team at their last consultation. With the help of Servite Housing Trust and Enfield Council, the team are making a concerted effort to clear up the streets.

11 April

PCSO wins cycling award

PCSO Zeb Begg from the Plaistow and Sundridge Ward Safer Neighbourhoods ward has awarded the *Cycling Works Award* at the Cycling Communities 2007 London Community and 999 Awards held earlier this month.

In June 2006, PCSO Begg was on a routine cycle patrol in a temperature of over 90 degrees when he saw Sanchez Williams, a violent prolific offender, acting in breach of his anti-social behaviour order.

Williams was detained by the officer after a lengthy violent struggle. He received a custodial sentence and PCSO Begg received a Quality of Service report for his courage and dedication to duty.

5 April

Public Protection Achievement Awards

T/DC Mark Goody from Richmond received an award at the Public Protections Achievement Awards Ceremony at The Royal Society of Arts.

Mark was nominated for an award in the category of *Outstanding Individual*.

He was commended for 'outstanding personal example, dedication and professionalism consistent levels of performance, across the core areas of public protection to provide an enhanced level of service to victims of crime'

Judy Clarke of Richmond and Karen Harding of the Missing Person Unit were also nominated for awards.

5 April

PCSO recruitment campaign wins award

The PCSO recruitment campaign 'Make A Visible Difference' has been awarded 'Best Campaign' in the Public Sector People Managers Association (PPMA) Awards.

The prestigious industry awards took place on 29 March at the Hilton Brighton Metropole.

Recruitment Marketing and Advertising were also shortlisted in two other categories for 'Best Supporting Material' for the Met Careers Bus, and 'Best Supporting Online Material' for the PCSO online campaign.

The 'Make A Visible Difference' campaign has resulted in the recruitment of more than 2,500 PCSOs during the last year thus enabling the full roll out of Safer Neighbourhoods teams across the capital. The drive is believed to be one of the biggest recruitment drives ever undertaken in such a short space of time.

3 April

Veteran Met Police Officer, founder and past chair of The BPA honoured

The London Region of the Labour Party made the inaugural presentation of its 'Our London, Our Future' award at an event at Canary Wharf in East London on Monday 19 March 2007. The inaugural award was presented to David Michael, a retired Detective Chief Inspector from the Metropolitan Police Service, founder and Past Chair of the Black Police Association. The presentation was made by the Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Tony Blair MP. He was joined for photographs with David by the Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone.

The award was made to mark David's work in the London community over many years and cited his 30 years as a London police officer, his role as a founder and Chair of the first Black Police Association in the United Kingdom.

His community work in the fields of race relations, diversity and equalities, the promotion of racial harmony and good citizenship were also acknowledged. As part of the 'Our London, Our Future' award, David will also be asked to nominate a community group in Lewisham to receive a £1000 cheque.

David, who was accompanied by his daughters Siobhan and Renata to receive the award from the Prime Minister said, "It was a pleasant surprise and I accept the honour on behalf of all those I have met on the way, who share my vision of human rights, fairness, justice and humanitarian work."

The Deputy Mayor of London, Nicky Gavron, Chair of the Metropolitan Police Authority, Len Duvall, immediate past Chair and member of the Metropolitan Police Authority, Lord Toby Harris were also in attendance.

Messages of congratulations on the honour were led by MP for Lewisham East, Bridget Prentice and Mayor of Lewisham, Steve Bullock. David has since received numerous other warm messages of congratulations.

3 April

Commissioner and Mayor mark three year anniversary of SN Teams

Met Police Commissioner Sir Ian Blair and Mayor of London Ken Livingstone visited the Stonebridge Estate in Harlesden, North West London, to mark the third anniversary of the programme to deliver Safer Neighbourhoods teams across London.

A community meeting attended by the Prime Minister on April 5th 2004 marked the official launch of the programme to give London 630 ward-based teams dedicated to problem solving community based policing following nine successful pilot projects.

Three years on Mayor Ken Livingstone and Sir Ian Blair are visiting Stonebridge ward to meet the current team and local residents to hear first hand about the impact of the Safer Neighbourhoods programme and how community policing on the estate can be further improved in the future.