

Equality Impact Assessment

The Equality Impact Assessment Guidance **must** be used when completing this form:
http://intranet.aware.mps/Corporate/Policy/Operational_Services/SOP/Equality_Impact_Assessment_SOPs.htm

Freedom of Information Act Document		
Protective Marking: Not Protected	Publication (Y/N): Y	
Title: Operation Blunt 2		
Summary: This document seeks to examine the impacts of Operation Blunt 2 on equality groups ensuring that the policy avoids differential, discriminatory and adverse impact and where possible promotes equality of opportunity and good relations between groups in the MPS' operations to tackle the use and carrying of knives in public places.		
Branch / OCU: TPHQ Patrol OCU		
Date created: 29.05.2008	Review date: 29.05.2009	Version: 1
Author: Ch Insp Geoff Bishop		

Directorate/Department/Borough/OCU: TPHQ Patrol OCU
Name, type or title of proposal (If a corporate policy, a policy workbook must also be completed): Operation Blunt 2 – Equality Impact Assessment

1. Aims and Purpose of Proposal - see Step 1 of the Guidance

Operation Blunt 2 aims to remove knives and guns from the streets of London and ultimately to save lives. The focus is on serious youth violence and reducing the number of victims under the age of twenty years old, particularly victims of knife crime.

Operation Blunt 2 – Mission

- To stop the killing of young people by weapons on the streets of London

Strategy

- To reduce serious violence involving young people as victims and as offenders
- To reduce the carrying of weapons by young people on the streets of London
- To gain the support of communities and young people for police action to reduce youth violence

Operation Blunt addresses MPS priorities, specifically Safer Neighbourhoods. Working together with our partners e.g. CDRP, Community Monitoring Network, Local Media, Ward Panels, Young People, Schools, Statutory Strategic Partners and Neighbourhood Watch and the community, it will be delivered through a variety of prevention and enforcement initiatives and the intention is to build trust and confidence within the community and with partners and satisfaction with police actions.

Key Messages

- The aim of Operation Blunt 2 is to stop young people carrying knives and keep them safe.

- Carrying a knife puts a young person at high risk of killing someone else and going to prison.
- Operation Blunt 2 stop and search tactics are based upon intelligence that tells us where the risk of knife crime is highest.
- Young people can help by telling others that it's not cool to carry a knife.
- Young people can help by reporting knife crime to us or to Crimestoppers.
- Everyone, including every young person, is entitled to be told why they have been stopped and searched and must be given a written record so that they can complain if they are not happy about how they were treated.

Measurement

Implementation and progress will be measured through daily returns from all Operation Blunt Boroughs. This includes the following performance indicators:

Operations	
No. of Blunt 2 Deployments	0
No.knife arch deployments	0
No. Section 60 Authorisations	0
No. of Knives recovered	0
No. of Weapons recovered	0
No. of Weapon Sweeps	0
No. of Knives recovered (sweeps)	0
No. of Weapons recovered (sweeps)	0
Stop / Search / Account	
No. of Stop/Search (s1 PACE 1984)	0
No. of Stop/Account (s1 PACE 1984)	0
No. of Stop/Search (s60 CJPA 1994)	0
No. of Arrests from use of s60 CJPA 1994	0
No. of Arrests from use of s1 PACE 1984	0
Arrests (weapon possession)	
Off Weapon (Knife)	0
Off. Weapon (Other)	0
Points / Blades	0
Case Disposal	
No. Charges - Off Weapon (Knife)	0
No. Charges - Off Weap. (Other)	0
Other disposals (Knives, weapons, pts./blades)	0
Significant tactical learning and issues	
Community Mandate and Impact - Issues of note (violence towards police, media coverage etc).	

In order to assess community tensions within the below named tiered boroughs a community tension process is followed. This process follows the Woodland model of community assessment.

An assessment of intelligence (both open source and closed) and environmental scanning together, where appropriate, with consultation with community members has been and will continue to be carried out.

The results of this process are and will be combined to provide a community impact assessment which is divided into three sections:

i. Experienced (how do communities feel)

1	Imminent	Corroborated evidence of preparation for crime and disorder – e.g. groups gathering, weapons being prepared etc.
2	High	Substantial evidence of fear of crime and/or disorder along with evidence of preparations to deal with the consequences – e.g. boarding up of shops.
3	Moderate	Evidence of widespread alarm at current tension levels. Local media reporting that tension is raised with local opinion formers and/or significant local people stating their fears.
4	Moderate	Corroborated evidence that a significant number of people in the community in question or across communities fear crime and/or disorder. They expect crime and disorder to happen if no action is taken to prevent it and/or another event serves to increase tension.
5	Raised	Some corroborated evidence of fear of crime or disorder within the community. The crime and disorder feared would be of low intensity and/or experienced by a limited range of people.
6	Normal	Limited community concerns that tension will rise and that, even if it did, the impact will be minor.

ii. Evidenced (what does our information tell us is happening)

1	Imminent	Tension indicators indicating crime and/or disorder to be expected within hours – e.g. stockpiles of weapons discovered, groups gathering on streets, opposing groups planning to demonstrate. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder is likely to develop within hours.
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2	High	Levels of crime and/or disorder raised along with evidence of serious offences having been committed. Tension indicators showing sustained hostility between particular groups or towards police. There may be evidence of activity by extremists groups. Disorder may have happened in the recent past. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime likely to develop within days.
3	Moderate	Substantial rise in crime and/or disorder combined with substantial corroborative evidence of other tension indicators. Particular communities may be targeted. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime is likely to develop unless responses are developed.
4	Moderate	Crime and/or disorder levels clearly raised above normal. Other tensions indicators –e.g. assaults on police, racist graffiti etc. – providing corroboration. Levels may indicate targeting of specific communities. Levels well above normal. Community and/or criminal intelligence suggests disorder or crime may develop but that steps can be taken to prevent such development.
5	Raised	Evidence that crime and/or disorder levels are raised when compared to the normal levels. Raised levels may indicate targeting of particular communities. Levels not substantially above the normal. Information sources do not suggest that crime and/or disorder will develop.
6	Normal	No indication in police crime and disorder reporting that tension is above normal.

iii. Potential (what might happen)

1	Imminent	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to lead to outbreaks of crime and/or disorder within hours.
2	High	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to lead to outbreaks of crime and/or disorder within days.

3	Moderate	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to raise substantially local experienced and evidenced tension. The expected rise in tension may be localised geographically or within communities.
4	Moderate	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, expected to raise local experienced and evidenced tension. The expected rise in tension may be localised geographically or within communities.
5	Raised	Local, national or international events, taken alone or in combination, may lead to limited experienced or evidenced raising of tension. Any expected tension may be localised geographically or within communities.
6	Normal	No issues locally, nationally or internationally that would impact on local communities sufficiently to cause abnormal tension levels.

The results of each of these sections are tabulated to give a numerical assessment of community tension, where 1 is the highest and 6 is assessed as normal.

This is an ongoing process used on a weekly basis to measure existing tensions across London relating to faith communities, race communities, gang activity, travelling communities, gun and knife related issues, the LGBT community, disability issues and age issues.

These assessments are completed and a pan London tension figure is measured to estimate the level of tension that is currently in existence across the service. This is passed to most of the ACPO officers as well as individual departments where appropriate.

Where tension figures are between 1 and 4 boroughs are required to develop and implement action plans to reduce the community tension.

Boroughs for inclusion as 'Blunt' Boroughs have been identified by London wide analysis. The individual boroughs will be required to identify their hotspot locations and offender/victim profiles to support the development of local plans. Boroughs will be responsible for producing high quality briefing packages for corporate asset deployed under Operation Blunt 2.

Current intelligence drives the initial deployment of Operation Blunt 2 to Tier 1 boroughs. Tier 2 boroughs will be monitored closely. Tier 2 and Tier 3 boroughs will be required to implement local tactics, with learning from Operation Blunt 2, to reduce youth violence.

<u>Tier 1</u>	<u>Tier 2</u>	<u>Tier 3</u>
Croydon Enfield Hackney Haringey	Barking & Dagenham Brent Ealing Greenwich	Barnet Bexley Bromley Camden

Lambeth Lewisham Newham Southwark Tower Hamlets Waltham Forest	Islington Wandsworth	Hammersmith & Fulham Harrow Havering Hillingdon Hounslow Kensington and Chelsea Kingston Merton Redbridge Richmond Sutton Westminster
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With Operation Blunt 2 all Boroughs are requested to fill out Actions Plans in order to show the communication between communities and the Police. It will also determine the way in which each individual Borough goes about Sec 60 stop and search operations, and the impact that these searches will have on their own unique communities. The detailed information on the plans will show how they have targeted 'hot spots' through intelligence – led policing and through local knowledge from communities.

All MPS stops and searches/accounts are entered onto the MPS stops database. The TPHQ Stops and Searches Team administer this. The Stops Reporting Tool provides a flexible search facility for enquires and results.

The MPS produces a monthly monitoring mechanism for each borough and the MPS as a whole. These reports outline headline data and rolling 13-month figures over a number of areas of stop and search/account. The presentation of this document has recently been reviewed and revised following community consultation. The data is presented in an easy to read format with graphs and commentary.

TPHQ Stops and Searches team are using the Home Office Police Performance Assessment Framework (PPAF) criteria and other additional measures within the data currently available to identify those BOCU's, whose performance in this field requires their management to be called to account by a TP Commander. This process is known as Operation Pennant.

2. Examination of Available Information – see Step 2 of the Guidance.

Operation Blunt 2 involves the use of the tactics successfully developed in knife enabled crime operations i.e. Operations Curb, Blunt and Kartel under one all-embracing youth violence initiative. It also draws on the learning and experience from previous operations aimed at reducing knife enabled crime.

Operation Blunt 2 will focus will be on dangerous people and dangerous places.

- We will continue to target the most violent young offenders on every borough, using intelligence to disrupt their activities and arrest them
- We will continue to focus on times and places where anti-social behaviour, disorder and youth violence are highest
- We will continue to target those who carry knives, to identify offenders and ensure that as many as possible are put before the courts

Powers given to Police to stop and search include powers under S1 under PACE, but more specifically under S60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order (CJPO) Act.

Section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 creates the power for a constable or designated person to stop and search persons and vehicles when they have reasonable grounds to suspect that person or vehicle may be in possession of stolen or prohibited articles.

S60 differs from this power. When an authorising officer reasonable believes that serious violence may take place or that persons are carrying dangerous instruments or offensive weapons without good reason they may authorise powers for officers in uniform to stop and search any person or vehicles within a defined area and time period.

Section 60 differs from other stop and search powers in three ways:

1. Firstly they require the authority of a senior officer,
2. Secondly officers carrying out stops using these powers are not required to have reasonable grounds and;
3. Lastly the officers have to be in uniform.

The Operation was designed through experience gained in prior policing activities relating to exercising the MPS' stop and search powers.

The following community and key stakeholders have been involved in this process:

- Liaison with CDRP / Community Monitoring Network / Local Media / Ward Panels / Young People / Schools
- SNTs, SSP, NHW and other community groups
- Internal briefings to Officers / Staff and Staff Associations
- LSP, CDRP and Consultative Group
- Community Monitoring Network

Please see the attached Community Engagement Strategy, which outlines our Community Engagement activities and a briefing distributed to boroughs. (*Insert number of appendices*)

There is a need for further engagement and consultation activity with the following groups:

- The voluntary sector and communities who have not currently been represented through our engagement activities. This will require specific engagement with local youth initiatives, advice centres, minority community groups etc.
- More engagement with young people, so that they understand and support the operation. Brief and engage Street Pastors, local authority and voluntary sector youth workers, outreach workers.
- Encourage more young people and those they respect, including the Street Pastors and youth workers to be Operation Blunt 2 champions.
- Encourage champions to speak publicly in support of Operation Blunt and our policing tactics to reduce knife crime.
- Make sure young people understand their rights re stop and search.
- The operation will be leafleted and observed by community leaders.

Surveys are being considered to obtain feedback from communities.



3. Consultation/Involvement - see Step 3 of the Guidance

a. Who is responsible for managing this consultation/involvement?

Superintendent Nick Jupp (Bronze Community)

b. Why is this consultation/involvement taking place?

Consultation is necessary in order to provide information and reassurance to the community and to build trust and confidence in the MPS. The reduction of knife and gun crime in our capital cannot be done in isolation and requires the support and involvement of our communities and the commitment of partners.

Community and Police Consultative Groups, Stop and Search Community Monitoring Groups, Independent Advisory Groups and other consultative groups as appropriate on all Boroughs are being engaged in order to understand the purpose of the operation and gain their involvement for police operations and to gain approval and build trust and confidence in police operations.

The death of any young person through gun or knife crime is a tragic event and has a high negative impact on family, friends, the community and society as a whole.

c. Who is included within the consultation/involvement, including which group(s)? Consider beneficiaries, stakeholders, service users or providers and those who may be affected.

A robust engagement strategy has been designed to ensure communities are actively engaged in discussion of the issues, to understand and inform them of the police response.

In locations identified as hotspots for youth violence, Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be required to undertake problem-solving activity in support of Blunt 2.

A key element will be the active briefing of young people through Safer School Police officers, Safer Neighbourhood Teams and other means as appropriate locally on the issues of youth violence and the police operational response.

Partners will be engaged in appropriate joint initiatives to complement the enforcement activity undertaken by police.

The following community and key stakeholders have been involved in this process:

- Liaison with CDRP / Community Monitoring Network / Local Media / Ward Panels / Young People / Schools
- SNTs, SSP, NHW and other community groups
- Internal briefings to Officers / Staff and Staff Associations
- LSP, CDRP and Consultative Group
- Community Monitoring Network

- d. What methods of consultation/involvement are employed to ensure full information sharing and participation, e.g. surveys, interviews, community meetings?

A community engagement briefing was delivered to all Tier 1 BOCU's, including community representatives e.g. Community Monitoring Network (CMN) and Community Police Consultative Group (CPCG). (See Annex 1)

A community engagement strategy has been implemented (see Annex 2).

Community Impact Assessments (CIA's) have been completed by every BOCU. BOCUs will continue to conduct CIAs to measure the impact of operations on borough, assess the risk and put in place appropriate action plans to alleviate any existing or potential community tensions.

- e. What are the results of the consultation/involvement? How are these fed back into the process?

The BOCU CIA's show public support for the tactics employed during OP Blunt 2, this support is replicated in the media. It is considered there is unlikely to be community tension as a result of this Operation, particularly if there are safeguards in place including the use of community observers and a structured process of community engagement. There are concerns that this operation may disproportionately target young black men. Further safeguards are in place to ensure disproportionality data is available and an appropriate scrutiny process in place. Each borough's stop and search records are scrutinised by a panel of local community members. This external community led scrutiny is essential in gaining an independent assessment of policing actions. They have the opportunity to raise concerns with boroughs that arise from their analysis of borough stop and search data. This process is replicated on a pan-London basis, assisted by the Metropolitan Police Authority.

The MPS Communities Together Strategic Engagement Team conduct a weekly community tension assessment, this information is available to BOCU commanders in order that local engagement and resolution takes place. Feedback from all BOCU's is discussed at the weekly OP Blunt 2 (Silver) meeting chaired by Commander Simmons.

4. **Screening Process for relevance to Diversity or Equality issues** - see Step 4 of the Guidance

- (i) Will the proposal have significantly higher impact on a particular group, community or person the MPS serves or employs?

Explain: Yes

The stabbings of young people in London are disproportionately affecting people from BAME communities and young people.

Home Office and MPS data show that there is a disproportionate use of stop and search powers on members of BAME communities. There is a strong link between continued disproportionality and a perception of discrimination. This is especially felt by Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities and some faith communities.

The use of the s.60 search power will be based upon intelligence about places where the risk of knife crime is high.

We know that people want police to use stop and search powers, both under s.1 Police & Criminal Evidence Act and s.60, so long as these powers are employed using an intelligence led approach, and that they are delivered with sensitivity and respect.

The current ethnic profile of Boroughs is based on residential population information obtained as a result of the 2001 UK Census. The 2001 UK census is the measure by which the Home Office gauges issues of disproportionality in Stop and Search / Account. It is important to remember that there are significant transient populations within certain areas of the MPS – persons who visit Boroughs to work, study, or to use transport links, shopping and entertainment facilities. The ethnic profile of the ‘street populations’ may vary significantly according to location and time of day. The census was taken almost seven years ago and, as mentioned above, it provides data on the residential population of Boroughs, rather than the ‘street’ population.

- (ii) Will any part of the proposal be directly or indirectly discriminatory?

Explain: No

Stop & Search is an important tactic of OP Blunt 2. Stop & Search policy and standard operating procedures are not discriminatory, however research has shown that people from BAME groups and specifically men and young black men are disproportionately stopped and searched under all stop search powers. However, this has to be balanced against suspect profiles, age profiles, transient population and the need to use intelligence to target prolific criminals on Boroughs.

This disproportionality is viewed by some parts of the community as discriminatory. Disproportionality is not the same as discrimination but it may be an indicator. Disproportionality in stop and search refers to the extent to which police powers are used against different groups of people ‘in proportion’ to the demographic profile of the general population. In some cases such disproportionality can be explained by legitimate factors,

However, it is essential that in cases where this occurs the police senior management team must give transparent and documented explanations for this as well as ensuring that such processes for recording data are accurate.

Each borough's stop and search records are scrutinised by a panel of local community members. This external community led scrutiny is essential in gaining an independent assessment of policing actions. They have the opportunity to raise concerns with boroughs that arise from their analysis of borough stop and search data.

This process is replicated on a pan-London basis, assisted by the Metropolitan Police Authority.

(iii) Is the proposal likely to negatively affect equality of opportunity?

Explain: No

The fair and effective use of stop and search powers enable police to detect crime and tackle criminality. When used fairly it is the key to the development of good relations between police and communities. The information is used for intelligence purposes and the production of 'raw' data for management information within the police service and provides the basis of the community monitoring reports

The MPS stops database is not speculatively searched for enquiries such as vetting processes.

(iv) Is the proposal likely to adversely affect relations between any particular groups or between the MPS and those groups?

Explain: Yes

There is evidence through the data collected from across London Boroughs that there is a disproportionate use of stop and search powers depending on a person's race. As a result there is a strong perception amongst some members of Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities that the MPS are unfairly targeting their communities. This is particularly true of young Black and Asian males. This is likely to damage any relationships that exist between those groups and communities that have little or no contact with police using these powers.

Because Stop & Search is a main tactic of Op Blunt 2, particularly under s.60 CJPO, there is an increased risk of adversely affecting relations with those groups. An effective communication strategy between the Police and the community will serve to allay some concerns and reassure those people being stopped.

(v) Are there any other community concerns, opportunities or risks to communities arising from the proposal?

Explain: Yes

Op Blunt 2 has a dedicated team in relation to community engagement and consultation led by a superintendent. Through strong community consultation and openness in sharing of data, there is an excellent opportunity to gain trust and confidence with the community through a greater understanding of the police tactics used under the operation.

Currently no BOCU's have identified any increased community tensions as a direct result of the operation. This is currently being monitored by the weekly community tension assessment.

(vi) Is the proposal likely to harm positive attitudes towards others and discourage their participation in public life?

Explain: Yes

There are indications that the continued disproportionate use of stop and search powers is eroding the trust and confidence of increasing numbers of people from BAME communities. The perception is not restricted to young people and stretches across age and gender. This could have an impact on levels of recruitment into the police service and also trust and confidence in the police as, by members of BAME communities.

(vii) Is the proposal a major one in terms of scale or significance?

Explain: Yes

The MPS is committed to making London safer and in order to assist in achieving this Operation Blunt 2 will be rolled out across London. Therefore it should be viewed as a major Operation in terms of both scale and significance.

From the answers supplied, you must decide if the proposal impacts upon diversity or equality issues. If yes, a full impact assessment is required. If no, complete the following box and enter a review date at the end of the form.

Full Impact Assessment Required	Yes	<i>(delete as applicable)</i>
Signed: Geoff Bishop	Date: 29.05.2008	
Supervised: Nick Jupp	Date: 29.05.2008	

5. Full Impact Assessment – see Step 5 of the Guidance

a) Explain the likely differential impact (whether intended or unintended, positive or negative) of the proposal on individual service users or citizens on account of:

Age: older people, children and young people.

Details: People aged under 24 represent over 60% of all stops using the S1 PACE power.

The below chart shows Searches by Age Group as a percentage of the total searches conducted each month in the MPS. Note: There are month on month variations in the total number of searches recorded.

Age	Dec 2007		Jan 2008		Feb 2008	
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Under 10	0.1	20	0.1	33	0.1	33
10 to 17	28.9	7844	28.9	11022	29.8	11573
18 to 24	36.4	9890	36.3	13854	37.0	14374

Op Blunt 2 is directed towards knife crime amongst young people and so the increased use of S.60 powers to stop and search will substantially increase the percentage of people under 24 being stopped.

Disability in line with the Social Model.

Details:

At a meeting with the Disability Independent Advisory Group, concerns were voiced about our lack of police ability to record and store data on the number of Disabled people who are stopped. The MPS is aware of its duties under the DDA legislation and actively involves Disabled people in the consultation processes for these policies.

Any differential impact will also be monitored through a community consultative process.

Faith, religion or belief: those with a recognised belief system or no belief.

Details:

Data is not presently collected about a person's faith. National research has been conducted by the Home Office that shows communities would be unwilling to disclose their faith at the point of contact. Further work continues on how this data could be captured in the future, particularly in relation to the introduction of new technology. However, at various meetings held with members of the Muslim community it is evident that some have a perception that stop and search powers, particularly those under the Terrorism Act, are being unfairly used against the Muslim community.

With no information collected on religion/faith the MPS is unable to comment on disproportionality issues in this area, but is considering solutions to assist us measure any disproportionality.

Any differential impact will also be monitored through a community consultative process.

The Stop & Search strategic committee meets quarterly to discuss Stop & Search activity, including the use of s.60. Community representation within this group includes members from the RACE IAG and the Muslim Safety Forum.

Gender or marital status: women and men.

Details:

Although at present no data is captured on marital status, on a regular basis, considerably more males are stopped than females. On average over 90% of people stopped are male which is closely aligned to criminal statistics where over 80% of suspects are males. This data has not raised any community issues.

Cumulative data for Stops and Searches per 1,000 population from Dec – Feb 2008 is:

	Stop and Search		Stop and Account	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
MPS No. of Searches per 1,000 population	28.5	1.4	28.9	4.1

Race, ethnicity, colour, nationality or national origins.

Details:

People from BAME groups and specifically men and young black men are disproportionately stopped and searched under all stop search powers. This is likely to increase with the increased use of s.60. Safeguards are in place to ensure disproportionality data is available and an appropriate scrutiny process in place. Each borough's stop and search records are scrutinised by a panel of local community members. This external community led scrutiny is essential in gaining an independent assessment of policing actions. They have the opportunity to raise concerns with boroughs that arise from their analysis of borough stop and search data. This process is replicated on a pan-London basis, assisted by the Metropolitan Police Authority.

The MPS Communities Together Strategic Engagement Team conduct a weekly community tension assessment, this information is available to BOCU commanders in order that local engagement and resolution takes place. Feedback from all BOCU's is discussed at the weekly OP Blunt 2 (Silver) meeting chaired by Commander Simmons.

The Irish Traveller community have expressed concern over the use of stop and search powers directed at their community. They refer to the fact that there is no specific data collected about this community and therefore any problem maybe hidden. The Self Defined Ethnicity 16+1 system does not cater for recording interactions with the Irish Traveller community.

Ethnic Appearance of people searched per 1000 population (2001 Census data):

	Dec 2007		Jan 2008		Feb 2008	
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Asian	3.79	3508	5.50	5097	5.51	5101
Black	10.47	9297	14.17	12581	14.48	12856
White	2.56	13042	3.73	19017	3.82	19459
Other	4.30	1092	4.59	1167	4.63	1175

Sexual orientation, transgender or transsexual issues.

Details:

As a result of this operation there has been no identified differential impact.

Other issues, e.g. public transportation users, homeless people, asylum seekers, the economically disadvantaged, or other community groups not covered above.

Details:

Some groups representing Asylum Seekers feel that the Police are disproportionate in the use of search powers.

b) Is the proposal directly or indirectly discriminatory? Is there a genuine occupational requirement?

Details: No

Under Operation Blunt 2, s.60 stop & search powers will be more widely used based on intelligence and community advice, the s.60 will be time and area limited and enforced by designated teams. The operation will be leafleted and observed by community leaders.

- c) Explain how the proposal is intended to increase equality of opportunity by permitting positive action.

Details:

The proposal does not increase or decrease equality of opportunity.

- d) Explain how the proposal is likely to promote good relations between different groups.

Details:

Through effective community engagement and communication strategies the MPS aims to gain community understanding and support for police activity under Op Blunt, in particular the use of Sec 60 CJPO.

Each Borough has been required to complete a community engagement action plan and engage their communities in order to complete Community Impact Assessments and Community Tension Returns.

- e) Explain how the proposal is likely to promote positive attitudes towards others and encourage their participation in public life.

Details:

Operation Blunt 2 is primarily an enforcement initiative. Partnership work on prevention and youth justice will continue under the direction and focus provided by the Youth Strategy.

With the introduction of Operation Blunt 2 it is envisaged that knife, gun and violent crime involving young people will be reduced.

Operation Blunt 2 will develop our learning from previous youth violence operations with robust operational activity.

The MPS will work with communities to use stop and search effectively and appropriately as an important tool in discouraging young people from carrying weapons

The MPS will continue to engage with young people to encourage them to report offences and have confidence in policing:

- Safer Schools Officers will be deployed in 185 priority schools/colleges and all 59 pupil

referral units across London

- Safer Neighbourhood Teams will ensure that all wards identify priorities for young people to make them safer and feel safer
- In every ward in London a Youth Panel will ensure that young people can work directly with police to make London safer

The MPS will work with partners in education and the criminal justice system to divert as many young people from crime as possible, to deal sensitively with young victims and to deal speedily and effectively with those who commit serious violence.

- f) Explain how the proposal enables decisions and practices to adequately reflect the service users perspective.

Details:

There is broad support for the MPS to make London the safest city in the world. At the moment there is a disproportionate level of knife crime. This has been highlighted in the media and has a disproportionate affect on people as they go through their daily lives.

The people working, visiting, and socialising in London should be able to go through their daily lives without the fear of crime impacting on them and to assist in this Operation Blunt 2 has been developed in direct response to the perceived increase in knife related crime.

Through robust engagement strategies boroughs will have the involvement of Neighbourhood Panels and Youth Panels in producing effective action plans mirroring local needs. In locations identified as hotspots for youth violence, Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be required to undertake problem-solving activity in support of Blunt 2.

Liaison with the CPS will be undertaken at pan-London level regarding prosecution policy in support of this activity. Boroughs will be expected to engage actively with local CPS to ensure a robust joint prosecution approach, and to produce impact statements for court.

Borough Commanders will ensure that local magistrates are briefed on the local profile of knife crime and the operational activity being undertaken to address it in order to encourage a robust judicial response.

6. Modifications – see Step 6 of the Guidance

Could the proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any identified negative impacts, or create or increase positive impacts? What improvements have been made?

Under Op Blunt the need to engage the community in order to gain support and to increase public confidence in operational tactics cannot be underestimated. The following engagement activities are planned:

- The voluntary sector and communities who have not currently been represented through our engagement activities. This will require specific engagement with local youth initiatives, advice centres, minority community groups etc.
- Get more young people engaged, so that they understand and are behind the operation. Brief and engage Street Pastors, local authority and voluntary sector youth workers, outreach workers.
- Encourage more young people and those they respect, including the Street Pastors and youth workers to be Operation Blunt 2 champions.
- Encourage champions to speak publicly in support of Operation Blunt and our policing tactics to reduce knife crime.
- Make sure young people understand their rights re stop and search.

7. Further Research - see Step 7 of the Guidance

Given the analysis so far, what additional research or consultation is required to investigate the impacts of the proposal on the diversity strands?

During Op Blunt 2 there will be continued liaison and structured consultation with community monitoring network, Staff Associations, IAGs, local media, ward panels, schools, colleges and crime and disorder reduction partnership panels on all Boroughs. This information will be collated and returned to TPHQ for analysis and evaluation. There will be weekly command meetings to monitor and review the effectiveness of this operation.

8. Decision-making - see Step 8 of the Guidance

a. Name, rank or grade of decision maker

b. What is the Decision?

Reject the proposal

No (*delete as applicable*)

Introduce the proposal

Yes (*delete as applicable*)

Amend the proposal (an impact assessment should be made of any amendments)

No (*delete as applicable*)

c. Name, rank or grade of SMT/(B)OCU/Management Board endorsing decision

9. Monitoring - see Step 9 of the Guidance

a. How will the implementation of the proposal be monitored and by whom?

All BOCU's are required to conduct Community Impact Assessments.

CTSET are collating MPS BOCU Community Tension returns.

The operation will be observed by community leaders.

Weekly meetings chaired by a Commander will assess the impact of the operation.

b. How will the results of monitoring be used to develop this proposal and its practices?

Performance is analysed, good practice is incorporated into working practices across the MPS through the approved command structure and any negative performance highlighted and action plans amended.

c. What is the timetable for monitoring, with dates?

Daily monitoring meetings

Weekly meetings chaired by Silver

Weekly Community Tension and activity returns by BOCU's

Monthly returns of qualitative data in respect of community activity

10. Public Availability of Report/Results - see Step 10 of the Guidance

What are the arrangements for publishing, where and by whom?

Following a quality assurance process this document will be published under the Freedom of Information Act.

Various performance indicators will be collated and presented at the weekly Commanders meeting.

Stops and Searches data is produced monthly on a Borough-by-Borough basis with the data broken-down over several elements. This data is available through the MPS Internet site:

www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch

Person completing EIA: C/I Geoff Bishop Signed:	Date: 29.05.2008
Person supervising EIA: Supt Nick Jupp Signed:	Date: 29.05.08
Quality Assurance Approval: Name and Unit: Shelley Perera, DCFD	Date: 03.06.08
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