



NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL 2001

**COST OF POLICING
AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND**

25TH TO 27TH AUGUST 2001



Introduction

The Notting Hill Carnival has been held over the bank holiday weekend in August since 1965. It is the largest carnival held in Europe and attracts over two million participants and spectators from round the world. The narrow streets and large crowds present unique challenges in effective policing. The collective effort from all sections of the Metropolitan Police Service, with additional assistance from the British Transport Police and the City of London Police, ensure the provision of security and safety to Londoners and visitors over the Carnival weekend.

In recent years, Notting Hill Carnival has seen a considerable reduction in the number of crimes committed, whilst numbers attending the event have increased dramatically since its inception. In 1993 crowd levels had reached one million, which continued through the 90's and now draws crowds that average 2 million people. For the past three years crowd numbers have levelled with crowds of 1.4 million being estimated over the bank holiday weekend. In comparison with the 1999 Carnival figures, Carnival 2000 saw a 27% increase in reported crime, especially violent crime. Arrests increased by 84%. High profile media coverage of the 2000 Carnival showed graphic images of youths openly brandishing knives and when coupled with the two

resulting murders, questions were asked as to whether the police response to such activity could be improved. This view was widely reported as being supported by the community.

As a result of this, an urgent review of Carnival was initiated by the GLA together with a comprehensive examination by

Our mission is to make London safer for all the people we serve. Our success will be decided not by bland statistics, but when everyone walking our streets believes it to be so. It is the need of every citizen we must target. - MPS

many interested parties, including the MPS. This led to increased support for the

Carnival in terms of police resources required. The MPS provided wide-ranging support and assistance throughout the year to the various groups including the GLA, the Notting Hill Carnival Trust, the City of Westminster and the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.

As part of the MPS response to reduce and minimise the opportunity for crime, CO11 and SO6 co-ordinated a pre-Carnival Intelligence Team. This team was tasked to gather quality information and intelligence in order to identify and, where possible, arrest suspects intending to commit significant criminal acts during Carnival. In total 24 pre-Carnival arrests were made, including four suspects in possession of a semi-automatic shotgun, ammunition and gloves. The team also contributed to real time tasking during the Carnival itself. This was an escalation from previous year's operations.

It is thought that the proactive operation has contributed to the reduction in both crimes and arrests. Compared with the same time last year, crimes have decreased by 24% and arrests by 22%. This includes a decrease in reported serious assaults of 82%, assaults in general by 50% and robberies by 43%.

Following the success of other Pro-Active Operations, CO11 Public Order Intelligence Unit (POIU) coordinated an intelligence gathering team. The remit of the team was to identify and develop Carnival intelligence issues with a view to provide actionable operations that could be mounted prior to and during Carnival to prevent and detain person(s) attending the venue, intending to commit significant criminal acts.

Further to the pro-active operations prior to Carnival 2001, an additional 1000 police officer were enlisted to assist over the bank holiday weekend. High visibility policing saw a significant increase in the cost of uniformed officers over the Carnival bank holiday weekend. The publicised cost of the Notting

Hill Carnival was forecasted at £4.5 million, a £1 million increase from Carnival 2000.

The opening day of this year's Carnival remained quiet and numbers were significantly down on recent years. This was due principally to the wet weather, which persisted throughout the afternoon and into the early evening. Sound systems closed promptly with no floats left on the Carnival route by 9pm. The second day of the Carnival, as usual, was the busiest day. The dry, warmer weather attracted significant

numbers to the event. Crowds appeared less dense than recent years. Police closed the procession route at 11pm, three hours past the planned finishing time, to ensure that clean up work could commence.

The policing of the Notting Hill Carnival in 2001 proved successful with an overall reduction in crime figures. The collaboration between the Metropolitan Police Service, British Transport Police and City of London Police was paramount in achieving public order. Public opinion post Carnival was also complimentary of policing techniques, both from the press and Carnival organisers.

Financial Highlights

There was an overall increase of £2,213,596 in spending for Notting Hill Carnival 2001 compared with last year. The forecast was projected at £4.5 million against historical data adjusted for additional known resource requirements. The actual cost of Notting Hill Carnival 2001 has come in at £5.6 million, £1.1 million over forecast. This represents a 65% increase in the cost of Carnival compared with the estimated costs of the 2000 event.

In light of the fatal incidents occurring at last years Carnival an additional 1000 Uniformed Police Officers, over the three days, were enlisted to assist this year. This expenditure line represents the greatest cost to policing Carnival with an increase of 79% and a total expenditure of £3,294,017. A higher visible presence and the re-introduction of band serials and stewarding resulted in a reduction of crime and a safer environment.

CID Involvement included an MPS response to reduce and minimise the opportunity for crime. CO11 and SO6 co-ordinated a pre-Carnival Intelligence Team under operation Trident. This team was tasked to gather quality information and intelligence in order to identify and, where possible, arrest suspects intending to commit significant criminal acts during Carnival. In total 24 pre-Carnival arrests were made,

including four suspects in possession of a semi-automatic shotgun, ammunition and gloves. The team also contributed to real time tasking during the Carnival itself. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea also carried out a pro-active operation code named Acamer. The cost of pre-event operations amounted to £86,823, with an overall increase of 193% in CID costs from the previous year.

The increase in photocopying, catering and training is a result of the increase in additional police officers present over the August bank holiday weekend. The printing of maps did not see a similar increase due to previous year surpluses. However, with the imminent change to the procession route being discussed for Carnival 2002 an increase in this expenditure line would be expected.

Increased surveillance activities are reflected within the Operational Technical Support expenditure line. The procurement and hire of audio, CCTV and audio-visual equipment accounts for £442k in spending. This represents a 76% increase in surveillance costs. Additional BT fibre optic cables were installed at a cost of £86k. With a change in route planned for Carnival 2002 this cost may increase next year.

***"The extra police officers, improved CCTV, re-introduction of band serials and stewarding all contributed to a much safer event with reduced crime and less serious over-crowding." – DAC
Andy Trotter***

Financial Statement

Notting Hill Carnival Policing Costs – 2001

Account	Note	Pre-event Oct 00 to Aug 01	Event Aug 01	Post-event Aug to Sept 00	Total Event 2001
Uniformed Officers on Duty During Carnival	A	26,382	3,255,700	11,935	3,294,017
CID Involvement	B	86,832	128,787	104,664	320,273
Communications Room 'GT'	C	558	97,945	4,252	102,755
Dog Section	D	-	676	-	676
Mounted Branch	E	-	35,701	-	35,701
Youth & Community Section	F	-	22,768	-	22,768
Photocopying	G	-	15,270	-	15,270
Printing	H	149	3,079	-	3,228
Air Support Unit	I	-	18,516	-	18,516
Traffic	J	-	106,254	-	106,254
Catering Department Food, Labour Costs	K	822	101,456	-	102,278
DPA Staff Costs	L	5,230	10,152	107	15,488
Photographic Branch	M	-	27,148	-	27,148
PSD, Building Surveyors Costs	N	2,141	409,859	1,230	413,230
Training Costs	O	119,508	-	-	119,508
Estate Branch, Staff Costs, Hiring Fees	P	-	44,681	-	44,681
Hire of Coaches & Vehicles + Mileage	Q	840	79,819	5,292	85,952
Lines Branch Costs	R	-	26,748	464	27,212
Operational Technical Support Unit	S	60,345	502,545	3,785	566,675
Car Pound, Contracts Management Unit	T	-	16,160	-	16,160
Carnival Public Order Costs	U	250,501	75,458	-	325,959
Sector Commanders Meetings	V	8,813	-	-	8,813
Briefing for Senior Officers, Staff Costs	W	25,366	-	-	25,366
Working Party Meetings	X	6,795	-	-	6,795
Total Expenditure		£594,273	£4,978,721	£131,729	£5,704,723
Less:					
Cost of the Usual Policing of Notting Hill	Y	-	79,737	-	79,737
Revenue from Car Pound Operations & removals	Z	-	-	-	-
Total Cost		£594,273	£4,898,984	£131,729	£5,624,986

Notes to Accounts

A. Uniform Officers on Duty During Carnival

Uniformed Officers represents the greatest costs to policing Notting Hill Carnival. The high visibility of uniformed officers is used to deter criminal activities and provides a safe environment for public activity. Due to the incidences of Carnival 2000 an additional 1000-uniformed officers were enlisted to assist over the bank holiday weekend in 2001. This has increased the cost of policing Notting Hill Carnival substantially.

B. CID Involvement

The expenditure for CID includes pro-active activities that were conducted prior to Carnival weekend. As part of the MPS response to reduce and minimise the opportunity for crime, CO11 and SO6 co-ordinated a pre-Carnival Intelligence Team under operation Trident. Additionally the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea conducted a pre-event operation under code name Acamar.

C. Communication Room 'GT'

The staff of Special Operations at New Scotland Yard provides communications for Carnival. Staffing resources are provided from across MPS boroughs and branches.

D. Dog Section

The Dog Section is a minimal cost to Carnival. Dogs are used as a last resort in maintaining public order and therefore kept to a minimum.

E. Mounted Branch

The Mounted Branch includes costs of mounted police and horses for Carnival. This includes civil staffs and farriers who are required to transport and care for the horses over the weekend period.

F. Youth & Community Section

The MPS provides the youth & community support for Carnival. The service ensures the safety of children and youth that become separated from their parents or guardians.

G. Photocopying

Photocopying is provided through DRU at New Scotland Yard. Expenditure for Carnival is inclusive of all material and labour costs.

H. Printing

Printing costs relate to the procurement of Carnival maps and required labour. This involves map layout, design and production that normally takes a total of one working day. With the change in the Carnival route being discussed for 2002 it is likely that this cost will be great next year.

I. Air Support Unit

Air support is used to provide aerial surveillance as an integral part of maintaining public order and safety at Carnival. Costs include the use of helicopters, pilot, officers and civil staff.

J. Traffic

Traffic includes the cost of human resource involved with maintaining traffic flow at Carnival. Over the bank holiday weekend traffic wardens ensure that vehicles proceed along predetermined routes and do not disrupt Carnival activities.

K. Catering Department, Food, Labour Costs

Catering includes all costs associated with providing meals and snacks to officers and civil staff working at Carnival. This includes the cost of produce, labour and other materials.

L. DPA Staff Costs

The Directorate of Public Affairs maintains liaison with interested internal and external parties. Communications are provided at meetings and to media groups as required.

M. Photographic Branch

The cost of personnel photographing arrested individuals, crime scenes and incident is included under this expenditure line.

N. PSD, Building Surveyors Costs

Surveying costs include the set-up and hire of barriers, scaffolding, portable cabins, etc. This is to establish road closures and make facilities available to meet the needs and requirements of policing operations.

O. Training Costs

Training costs are at normal time for police officers attending courses in preparation for Notting Hill Carnival. For Carnival 2001, 569 police officers attended training.

P. Estates Branch, Staff Costs, Hiring Fees

To accommodate police and civil staff working at Carnival additional facilities are required. Costs incurred under this expenditure line include rental & hire of premises used over the bank holiday weekend.

Q. Hire of Coaches & Vehicles + Mileage

Coach & Vehicle hire includes the use of MPS vehicle, external hires, mileage and driver costs.

R. Lines Branch Costs

The telephone client unit provides communication services that include lines for telephones and facsimile machines and their call costs. Hiring of pages and the call cost of mobile phones also fall under this expenditure item.

S. Operational Technical Support Unit

DCC10 provides radio, CCTV and audio-visual support for Carnival. This year saw additional equipment requirements to ensure greater safety. Among the costs were fitted earpieces and CCTV equipment. The total equipment procurement and hire accounts for £442k of expenditure.

T. Car Pound, Contracts Management Unit

MPS and contract services are used to remove any vehicles that pose problems in the free movement and safety of Carnival events. Costs under this expenditure line include staff costs and hire of removal vehicles.

U. Carnival Public Order Costs

The Carnival Office operates all year round in preparing and performing duties in relation to Carnival. An increase in costs are normally incurred closer to Carnival weekend with extra staff and staff overtime reflecting the increase in activities.

V. Sector Commanders Meetings

Sector Commanders meeting accounted for 31 equivalent workdays. These costs were all pre-event occasions held over 4 meetings lasting 1 to 2 hours each.

W. Briefing for Senior Officers, Staff Costs

Silver Strategy and Gold Tasking meetings accounted for 93 equivalent workdays. These costs were all pre-event occasions held over 21 meetings lasting 1 to 3 hours each.

X. Working Party Meetings

Safety Group, Working Party and Carnival Operations meetings accounted for 27 equivalent workdays. These costs were all pre-event occasions held over 20 meetings lasting 1 to 3 hours each.

Y. Cost of the Usual Policing of Notting Hill

The cost of usual policing of Notting Hill is identified to offset Carnival costs. As these services would have been incurred under normal weekend policing arrangements, they are deducted from the cost of policing over the Carnival bank holiday weekend.

Z. Revenue from Car Pound Operations & Removals

Vehicles that were in parking violations were relocated rather than impounded under the Commissioner's direction. Therefore no revenue is forthcoming from removal operations.

Summation

A successful policing operation ensured that Notting Hill Carnival passed peacefully this year, enabling more than a million revellers to soak up the atmosphere of Europe's largest street party.

The tragic violence which tarnished last year's celebrations was largely absent and crime was significantly reduced thanks to the Met's largest ever security operation at the event.

"The celebrations this weekend have passed off successfully and without a major incident." – DAC Andy Trotter.

The total number of reported crimes at Carnival 2001 was 209 compared to 276 last year, while arrests were down from 129 in 2000 to 101 this year. Most of the arrests were for theft, robbery and drugs offences.

Gold for the event, Commander Michael Messinger praised all the police and civil staff who helped to ensure that Carnival was relatively trouble free.

"Everyone worked very hard and I would like to thank them for their professionalism and dedication. It was a privilege working with them all," he said.

The number of police and civil staff in attendance at Carnival was

up by 1,200 this year, with 10,248 police on duty over the three days. Almost every MPS department provided support.

Commander Messinger said the new measures introduced to prevent the crime and disorder which occurred last year had worked well.

"Our intelligence-gathering operation was successful and resulted in pre-emptive arrests which kept potential troublemakers away," he said.

"The re-introduction of band serials accompanying each float also worked well, as the floats were able to move around the carnival route better than in previous years." An extra 80 CCTV cameras were used at this year's event and around 600 stewards, three times as many as previously, were on hand to assist.

The cost of the policing operation amounted to £5.6 million. DAC Andy Trotter said the Met was looking forward to working with its partners to improve the format for the event. "This will result in a safer Carnival leading to a reduced police presence and overall cost," he explained.