

Questions Submitted for Written Response

Joanne McCartney

Offences Taken Into Consideration

How does the Met ensure that TICs are valid?

The detainee must admit the offence during a formal PACE interview under caution. The admission must be clear and reliable and corroborated with additional verifiable and auditable information connecting the detainee to the crime.

Therefore the detainee must provide sufficient detail that can be verified by the victim, the original crime report, forensic evidence, details from the MG19 compensation form, statements if they have previously been taken or the suspect provides the location of outstanding property etc

All TICs must be confirmed by the Designated Decision Maker, who must certify on the Details screen of Crime report that there is additional evidence connecting the detainee to the crime, before the TIC can be counted.

Joanne McCartney

Policing the Olympics

Further to recent press reports on US concerns regarding security during the Games, can you outline what concerns have been raised with the Met and how they are being dealt with?

The US Embassy has described the various unsubstantiated media articles speculating about numbers of US agents as "simply untrue". The Americans have raised no issues or concerns with us. This was clearly set out in a letter sent to the Guardian by the American Deputy Ambassador. This letter was published in the Guardian newspaper

It is the responsibility of the host nation to ensure the safety and security of the athletes.

We regularly brief representatives from countries competing in London 2012 on safety and security to ensure they understand our plans for the Games and can support us in our aim to deliver a safe and secure event.

Joanne McCartney

Gang culture

The Minister of State Lord Henley recently outlined plans for a specialist team including children's mental health professionals and safeguarding experts to

help local areas across the country tackle gang culture. What discussions have the Met had about the scheme and can you please outline what resources will be available to London?

Background

The Home Office 'Ending Gang and Youth Violence Team' (EGYVT) will provide a team of 100 specialists tasked with helping Boroughs combat gangs. The advisors are experts from a range of backgrounds, including community activists, experts in child and adolescent mental health and safeguarding specialist. The EGYVT has identified 22 Boroughs across England who are to receive support, 16 are in London. They aim to support 30 boroughs and will invite a further eight boroughs to apply. £10 million has been allocated to the 30 areas.

Discussions

Op Connect sits on the EGYVT Programme Board and is working closely with DCS McNally who heads the EGYVT. The 16 London boroughs will be invited to an EGYVT workshop in January. They are creating a special interest group where boroughs can request advice and circulate effective practice. Boroughs can seek advice from the EGYVT 'advisors'. The EGYVT and Op Connect will be visiting the London boroughs early next year.

Resources

In the New Year the MPS will be making an announcement about the MPS response to gang activity across the 16 Boroughs and the creation of a Gang Command. The strength of this task force is being established. It will enhance our anti-gang activities; improve our coordination and tasking towards gangs and will include a 'Gang Partnership Model' to divert young people on the edge of gang crime and offer gang members' pathways to exit gangs. This model is being shaped through close liaison with the EGYVT. The resources allocated to the model will ultimately be for boroughs to determine. However, the model will outline a minimum requirement, which is being established.

Questions Requested for Written Response at the FA

Caroline Pidgeon

Single Patrol

What are your views on single patrolling, and do you think they are working in London?

The MPS supports the use of single patrol in London - it is the most efficient use of resources. It increases uniform presence, raises community confidence and maximises the opportunity for engagement with the public.

Single patrol does not necessarily mean single response, each incident is risk assessed and proximity patrols are acceptable if the risk posed necessitates a dual response.

The default position of the MPS is that officers should single patrol.

Effective (single) patrol will very much remain a focus in the future

Jenny Jones

Undercover officers

Could you please provide an update on the audit into the use of undercover officers within the Met?

An independent review has been carried out in relation to current undercover operations within the MPS by a senior operational security adviser from South Wales Police.

This review was completed last Friday (18.11.11) and verbal confirmation has been received from the reviewer that all of the operations are RIPA compliant and that the deployments are both necessary, proportionate and justified when balanced against the operational requirements.

In relation to the NDEU, as yet this exercise has not been carried out but this is currently being addressed and a similar process will be adopted in relation to their current operations.

James Cleverly

Womens Safety (2)

There has been an increase in allegations of multi-perpetrator rapes, 390 of which occurred over this period. How is Sapphire responding to this change?

Members will be aware that there was a detailed report to SOP earlier this month on the Serious Sexual Offences Review conducted within SCD2 Sapphire.

The MPS Closely monitoring and fully investigating these reports in close liaison with children's services where appropriate.

The MPS developed a key element of the 'Growing against Gangs' education package for schools entitled 'Girls, Gangs and Consequences' and working closely with the Havens' dedicated youth workers, Rape Crisis and Victim Support to help protect young people from involvement in these offences.

The MPS supporting the Home Office to progress the Stern Report recommendation to develop a better understanding of 'consent' in sexual relationships among young people.

Victoria Borwick

DNA & Crime

The 350 DNA submissions made to catch the criminals from this year's riots highlights how crucial DNA is to the safety of all Londoners. Furthermore, the importance of maintaining DNA samples over a long period was also recently illustrated by the case earlier this year when Hyung-Woo Pyo was sentenced to eight years for rape because his DNA had been taken previously when he was questioned about a burglary.

In light of cases such as these, how do you think the evolving role of DNA and the Protection of Freedoms Bill will impact policing in the future?

The time limited retention of DNA profiles will inevitably impact on the number of DNA matches generated from the National DNA Database (NDNAD); the MPS and ACPO have highlighted to Ministers and Parliament the potential operational risks but it is for politicians to set the balance between civil liberties and protecting the public.

However, under the newly proposed DNA retention regimes of the Protection of Freedoms Bill, the power to search the DNA profile of all those who are arrested, regardless of whether they are convicted, is not affected. Therefore DNA profiles from arrestees will continue to be searched and reveal the crimes they have committed in the past.

John Biggs

As you will have read in the press this week journalist, Nabila Ramdani, made a complaint to the police after being abused on Twitter. This follows hot on the heels of several footballers making similar complaints.

Can you confirm that you are investigating this complaint?

Can you also confirm that you are investigating Nabila Ramdani's claims that her initial complaint was not dealt with appropriately by your officers?

Finally can you put on record that any reporting of a crime will be treated the same, whether you are famous or not and whether the crime has taken place in the real world or via the internet?

The Met's Directorate of Professional Standards is investigating whether there has been a neglect in duty through an alleged failure to properly record and investigate an allegation of crime. As part of the DPS investigation, a full

review of the criminal allegation will be undertaken to assess whether this matter was investigated appropriately.

The Met expects its officers to report and investigate crime properly. Every allegation of race hate crime should be taken seriously and any officer found failing to meet the high standards required will be subject to the misconduct process.