

### Criminal Networks Disruption Process

An objective review of the criminal network disruption process was undertaken earlier this year. This was in response to a general perception that it was bureaucratic and overly complicated, especially for officers providing submissions. The review arrived at a number of recommendations.

In September, for the first time, panel members were invited to a discussion group. Its intention was to build on the review's recommendations and provide an opportunity to share current thinking, experience and ideas. The group sought in general terms to:

- ensure the process is robust and fit for purpose
- reaffirm the level of evidence required for a disruption to be awarded
- reassess the process map for criminal network disruptions
- review the assessment form from perspective of claimants and panel, that the right and sufficient information is being captured to aid decision-making
- providing guidance notes for panel members with those networks involved in homicide or kidnaps and clarify claims that involve intelligence packages (formerly known as controlled deliveries)
- extend panel membership to reflect organisational operational make-up and identify a suitable induction process for new members
- improve our performance reporting format to inform key stakeholders
- initiate some form of independent inspection to verify the panels' decisions
- how best to take forward the problematic issue of scaling or weighting disruptions
- communicating the panels role and activities, feeding back good practice and learning from submissions

Work already undertaken to date:

- Panel membership includes staff from Specialist Crime, Specialist Operations and Central Operations with a colleague from Operational Services to join shortly
- Discussions held with the head of MPS Inspectorate to suggest an appropriate, independent inspection to verify the panels' approval of claims. This is likely to take the form of sampling and introduced before the end of the financial year.
- A draft internal report is to be launched soon, providing a greater breakdown of claims and performance against target
- The panel members will for the foreseeable future meet on a quarterly basis to continue discussing improvements. The next one is scheduled for December.