



**MPA**

**Metropolitan Police Authority**

**London ICV Conference**

**2008**

**Feedback Pack**

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**ACPO**  
**X26 Taser Trial**  
**2007/08**

Inspector Steve Lawrie & Sergeant Andy Harding

# Timeline of Events

**Sep 2004** M26 was approved for all UK Police Firearms Officers.

**Apr 2005** Newly developed X26 Taser was approved for UK police use.

**Jul 2007** Home Office extends the current Taser deployment guidelines for all UK firearms officers.

**Sep 2007** Home Office also approves a unique UK trial of Taser deployment by specialist (non firearms) units in ten force areas.

# How Taser Works

Taser works by discharging a pair of probes from an electrical device at an intended subject up to **6.4m (21ft)** away.

The probes which contain sharp barbs are connected to the Taser by very fine copper wire. When both probes make contact with the subject (skin or clothing) a circuit is created

**50,000** volts are then passed through the conducting wire into the subject.

# How does Taser effect the human body?

Taser over rides neuromuscular control by disrupting the body's motor nerves required for maintaining posture and balance.

Effective Taser deployment causes **Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation** (NMI) and uniquely does not rely solely on pain compliance.

**NMI** or pain may occur to any person making physical contact between conducting probes, or on contact with the wires.

# HOWEVER...

Although 50,000 volts are passed through the wires into the subject they are delivered at an extremely low amperage (0.0021 amperes or 2.1 milliamps ). Therefore causing no long term damage or injury to the subject but at the same time achieving the desired neuro-muscular incapacitation.

# Why trial Taser in London?

- Firearm trial success
- National ACPO trial
- To reduce injury to violent offenders
- To allow officers more control over violent suspects at distance
- To reduce assaults on Police
- Has received full IPCC support



# Who in the Met will trial Taser?

CO20 - Territorial Support Group

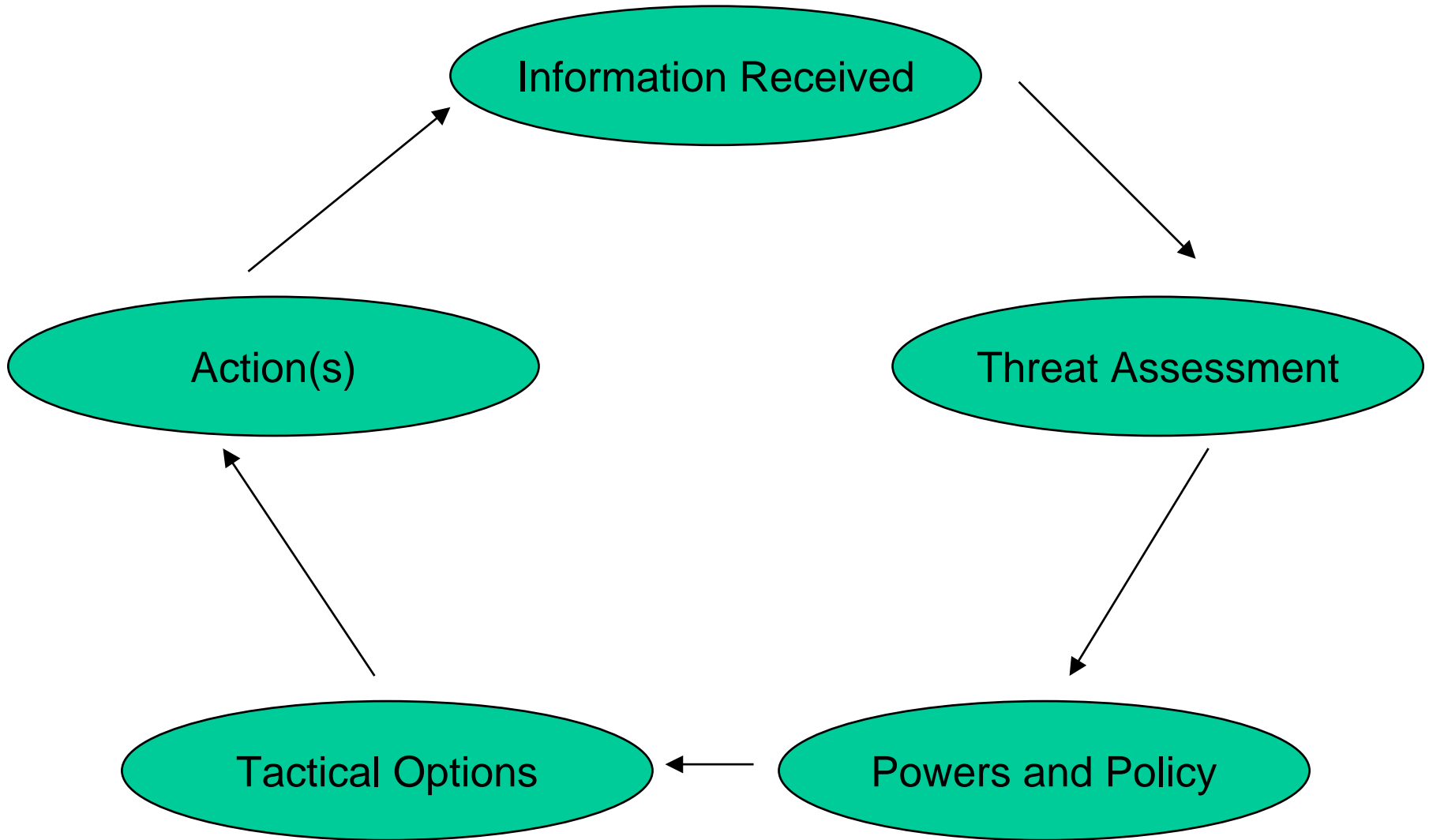
## Why the TSG?

- Highly motivated and trained group of Officers
- Effective command structure
- Specialist officers (shield, violent scenario)
- Trial will have realistic results due to nature of TSG work

# Taser Training

- 24-Hour course
- We have produced a unique course incorporating the use of shield work.
- Human Rights compliant
- TSG officers have more training than any other police service
- Comprehensive selection process and regular assessments.

# Conflict Management Model



# Post-Incident Procedures (PIPs)

PIPs will be considered when a Taser has been discharged either by firing the probes at a subject or in drive stun mode.

PIPs will be always be implemented after the following circumstances:

- When the public are put in danger
- Death or serious injury or
- When failings in command are identified.

Incidents are no longer automatically referred to the IPCC.

# Post-Incident Procedures

- Following an operational discharge the scene will be secured and evidence gathered according to the minimum forensic standard.
- After discharge all data will be downloaded from the Taser into a computer
- All detained persons / subjects exposed to Taser use will be given a notice explaining Taser.

# Conclusion

As part of the ACPO trial, we will be:

- assessing Taser use in conventional policing scenarios
- using Taser alongside all other officer safety equipment
- providing Londoners with a first class policing service

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# **Borders & Immigration Agency Managing Detention**

**Fiona Cooper**



# Detention & Population Management

## Purpose of Session

- Overview of Border & Immigration Agency activity
- Immigration Legislation
- Immigration Control
- Detention Estate
- Use of Police cells

1. How many detention spaces are currently managed by the Border & Immigration Agency?

a) <1500

b) 1500 – 3000 (Answer)

c) >3000

2. What percentage of removals take place from London Heathrow or London Gatwick airports?

a) <50%

b) 50% – 80%

c) >80%

3. How long can an immigration detainee be legally held in a police cell?

a) 2 nights

b) 5 nights (if no removal directions set)

c) 7 nights (if removal directions are set)

4. Approximately what percentage of the detention estate is ex-Foreign national prisoners?

a) < 20%

b) 50%

c) > 80%

# **Immigration & Asylum Act 1971**

## **as amended by the 1999 Act**

Defines the Immigration Officer's powers

- To require people to submit to examination
- To grant or refuse entry
- To detain
- To arrest Immigration Offenders

Detention

- Detention Centre Rules
- Detainee Custody Officer (DCO) requirements & powers

## **Detention & population management can occur at different points;**

- **Pre-Entry Overseas**
- **On Entry at UK Border**
- **After Entry to UK**

## **Arrest Teams & POSUs-** apprehending offenders

- Visits based on intelligence
- Visits where there is no plan to detain but an offender is encountered
- Police station call-outs to deal with a suspect usually already under arrest where there is a potential immigration matter

## **Arrest Teams**

- To comply with H&S, officers must wear personal protective equipment including ballistic/stab protection vests
- Dependent on the individual risk assessment, they may also wear headwear and hi-visibility clothing
- Handcuffs, batons and belt kits may be used where authorised

## **Joint Intelligence Units**

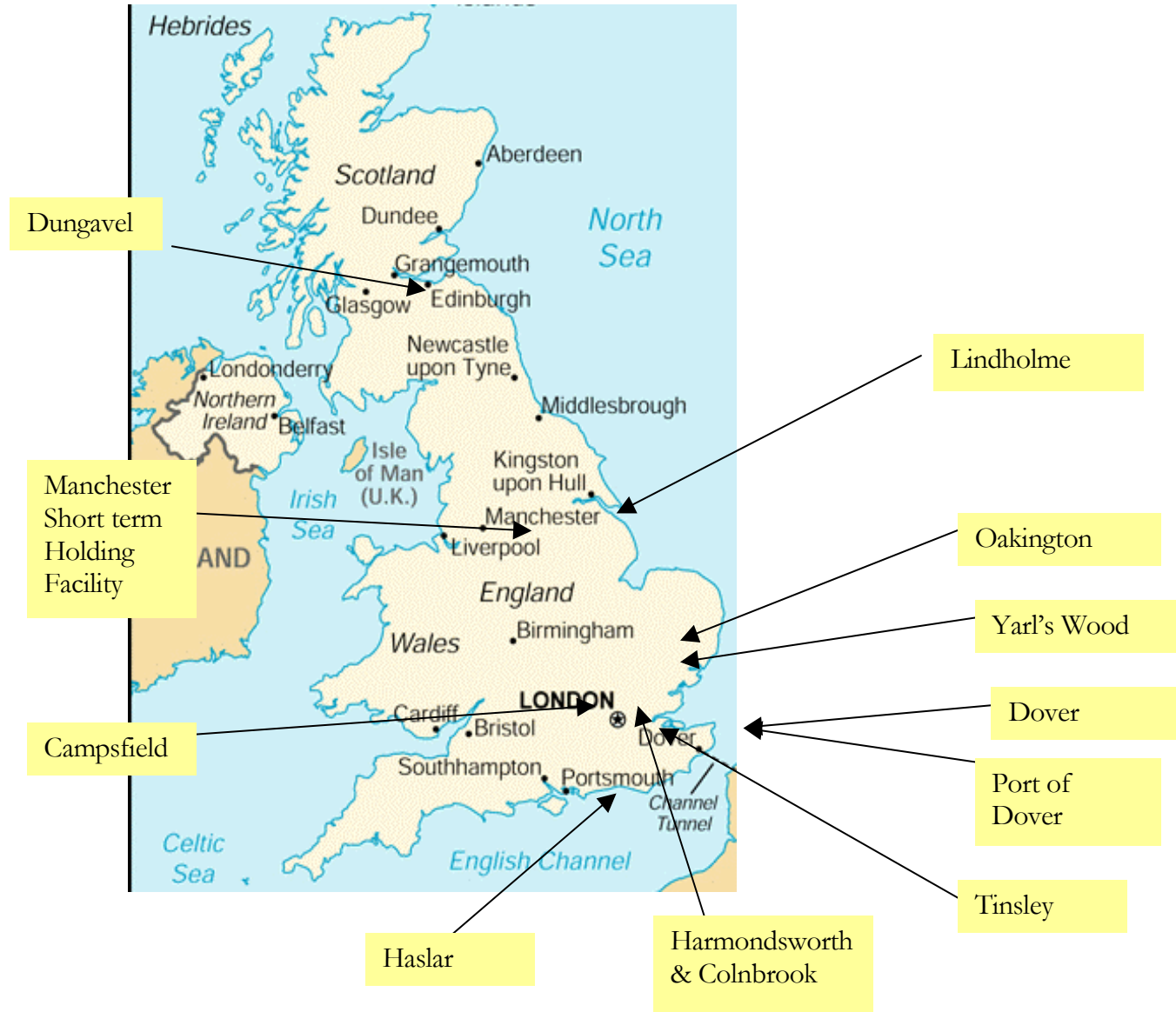
- To support enforcement visits
- Enquiries & visits cannot be speculative (fishing)
- Work in the community is highly sensitive so full risk assessment is always required
- Visits have to be carried out at a time which will not frustrate the visit and when the offender is most likely to be encountered

## **Detention Services Mission Statement**

DS serves the public by escorting and holding people detained under Immigration law and by assisting in the removal of those not entitled to stay in the United Kingdom.

Our purpose is to ensure that they are held securely and safely and cared for with humanity.

# Detention Centres in UK



## **Removal Centres**

- Different contractors
- Different contracts
- Different facilities & regimes
- Different reception times

## **Country Escorting Contract**

- Holding Rooms at Ports & LEOs
- Manchester Short Term Holding Facility
- Escorting – transfers, hearings, removals

## **Overseas Escorting Contract**

- Scheduled removals
- Charter flights – up to 100 p.a.



Port Reference:  
Home Office Reference:

IS91R

UK Immigration Service  
3rd Floor  
Northumbria House  
Norfolk Street  
NORTH SHIELDS  
NE30 1LN  
Telephone 0191 238 0440 Fax 0191 238 0480

NOTICE TO DETAINEE

REASONS FOR DETENTION AND BAIL RIGHTS

1. To: Erdogan Nurhayat plus 2 x dependants  
I am ordering your detention under powers contained in the Immigration Act 1971 or the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002.

See note <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup> <sup>(1)</sup>  
(4) (5)

2. Detention is only used when there is no reasonable alternative available. It has been decided that you should remain in detention because (tick all boxes that apply):

<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> You are likely to abscond if given temporary admission or release.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> There is insufficient reliable information to decide on whether to grant you temporary admission or release.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Your removal from the United Kingdom is imminent.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. <input type="checkbox"/> You need to be detained whilst alternative arrangements are made for your care.</p> <p>e. <input type="checkbox"/> Your release is not considered conducive to the public good.</p> <p>f. <input type="checkbox"/> I am satisfied that your application may be decided quickly using the fast track procedures.</p> <p><b>This decision has been reached on the basis of the following factors (tick <u>all</u> boxes that apply):</b></p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> You do not have enough close ties (eg. family or friends) to make it likely that you will stay in one place.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> You have previously failed to comply with conditions of your stay, temporary admission or release.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> You have previously absconded or escaped.</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> On initial consideration, it appears that your application may be one which can be decided quickly.</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> You have used or attempted to use deception in a way that leads us to consider you may continue to deceive.</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> You have failed to give satisfactory or reliable answers to an Immigration Officer's enquiries.</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> You have not produced satisfactory evidence of your identity, nationality or lawful basis to be in the UK.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. <input type="checkbox"/> You have previously failed or refused to leave the UK when required to do so.</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> You are a young person without the care of a parent or guardian.</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Your health gives serious cause for concern on grounds of your own wellbeing and/or public health or safety.</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> You are excluded from the UK at the personal direction of the Secretary of State.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> You are detained for reasons of national security, the reasons are/will be set out in another letter.</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Your unacceptable character, conduct or associations.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> I consider this reasonably necessary in order to take your fingerprints because you have failed to provide them voluntarily.</p>
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Your case will be regularly reviewed. You will be informed, in writing, of the outcome of the review.

Sign

Immigration Officer /  
On behalf of the Secretary of State\*  
(\*delete as appropriate)

Print

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TURN OVER

# Use of Police Cells

## The Immigration (Places of Detention) Direction

- Persons may be detained under the provisions of the Immigration Act 1971 (as amended) in a police station for five days and for an additional two days where it is proposed to remove the person from the United Kingdom within a period of not more than two days

# Use of Police Cells

Operationally the maximum time that someone is allowed to stay in a police cell is two nights and any extension must be authorised by a Senior Manager.

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# **Immigration Detainees in Police Custody**

**Detective Superintendent David Imroth**

# **Volumes**

**2006 - 3,747**

**1,933 removed within 24 hours**

**Further 1,319 removed before the expiry  
of the second day**

# **Volumes**

**2007 - 3,330**

**1,292 removed within 24 hours**

**A further 1,037 removed before the end of  
the second day**

# Time Limits

## Immigration Enforcement Manual Section 55.21

### Detention in Police Cells:

- Preferably one night only
- Maximum of 2 nights, however
- Exceptionally can be up to 5 nights extended to 7 nights if removal already underway

# **Rights & Entitlements**

Not in “Police Detention” as defined by PACE, but treated in accordance with code C as far as practicable.

## **Shared Concerns**

- Privacy
- Washing / Shower facilities
- Exercise
- Visits
- Language

# Southwark

- Used solely for immigration detainees
- Reduces operational impact of “bed blockers” in our other sites
- Recently closed for refurbishment regarding fire alarms

## Working Together

- Raising standards of care
- Inspections by Custody Directorate
  - ICV Help
- Raising issues through your Local Custody Manager



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# Modernising Custody

**Meeting the challenges of  
the future**

**Chief Superintendent  
Joanna Young**

# Content

- Project Herald
- Safer Detention
- Borough Based Custody Centres
- Counter Terrorism Provision

# Challenges & Solutions

# PROJECT HERALD

## Aim / Objective

“To Improve Custody  
Efficiencies and provide a  
Safer Environment”

- **Enhanced DDO Inputting Role**

To support the custody officer by carrying out individual Procedures or tasks connected with administration of the booking in procedure.



## **Forensic Healthcare Provision**

To allow Healthcare Professionals to provide early Identification of risks and increase the overall welfare of detainees.



- **Early Forensic Intervention**

To assist with achieving best evidence through timely and accurate forensic intervention.



# Borough Based Custody Centres



- Purpose built 30 - 40 cell facility with processing accommodation
- Modern facilities will meet future legislative and operational changes embracing forensic/ technological advancements
- Single Borough custody support serving each London Borough
- Where possible, BBCC to also contain Integrated Prosecution Team & Virtual Court

**Illustrations**

# Modern Safe Facilities

Modern custody facilities, PACE & Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant to meet safer detention guidance incorporating:

- Digitalised CCTV Monitoring
- Life Sign Monitoring
- Cell Telephony
- Proximity card access to cells
- The proposed Project Herald staffing model





# Benefits

- Improve care and quality of service to detainees
- Reduction in the number of deaths/ self harm in custody
- A safer working environment for MPS staff and partners
- Increase in time available for front line duties
- Increase in the number of sanctioned detections
- Delivering value for money – through economies of scale

# GUIDANCE ON **THE SAFER DETENTION & HANDLING OF PERSONS IN POLICE CUSTODY**

## **2006**

Produced on behalf of the  
Association of Chief Police Officers and the Home Office  
by the National Centre for Policing Excellence



## Issues:

- Custody staff Handover – permanent teams & conducive shift overlaps
- Prisoner Escort Record auditing
- MPS custody estate and facilities
- CCTV provision & policy
- Inter-agency protocols - such as the treating of injured, violent or intoxicated detainees who need immediate hospital care and / or subsequent pre-release agency referrals

## What we've done so far:

- Guidelines for driver's responsibility for checking of secure (cage) area of police vans
- Personal issue ligature cutters / pouches
- Procurement of 'pharmabins' for the safe and correct disposal of unused medication
- Research in support of Life Sign Monitoring System for inclusion in BBCC project



## **MPS Good Practice:**

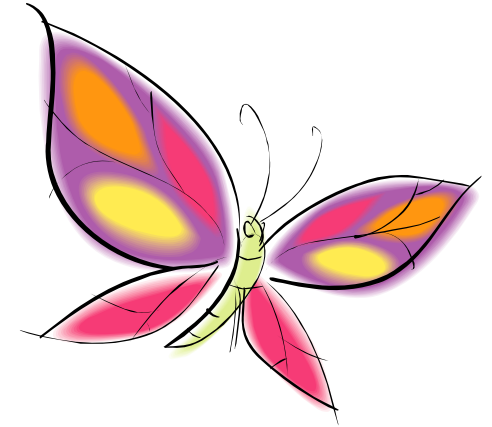
Of **44** of the **93** areas raised by the capability assessment and Peer review, MPS policies and procedures either **match or exceed recommendations** within the guidance (this equates to **52%**). These include: -

- MPS Vehicular first aid kits that exceed ACPO requirements
- Mental Health liaison – protocols in place across the MPS
- Prisoner escort arrangements – protocols in place including contingency plans.
- First Aid (ELS) courses now exceed NPIA recommendations

# Counter Terrorism Custody Provision

## Drivers

- Lord Carlile
- IPCC
- Defence challenges over conditions
- Change in nature of terrorist activity
- National structural changes
- Home Office Design Guide – to be published



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# QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

## Taser

1. Are targets gender specific?

No, officers have to consider level of threat posed at the particular time. Key point of officers training is barb placement and being aware of vulnerable areas.

2. Has anyone died from being tasered?

No one has died in the UK. Media reports suggest that taser has caused death but this could be a secondary factor as the medical history of the individual is unknown.

3. Can taser be used in other circumstance e.g. compliance?

Yes, in cases of serious crime-to support legislation and in self harm-to control a situation. Taser is not used in crowds.



4. Does taser make the body numb or cause pain?

Taser causes a rippling, painful uncomfortable and unpleasant sensation. The tasered person is conscious but cannot move.

5. Is taser used on unruly children?

The use of taser depends on the level of threat posed at the time.

6. What does the taser training consist of?

2 days initial training as well as continuous training. Taser USA has stated that the UK training package is 'the best in world'. Evaluation carried out by daily reports of incidents and review by Home office/ACPO/MPA.

7. Evidence from medical literature suggests that people tasered may lose function of their bowels?

There is no medical evidence to prove this and this has not been the experience of the people tasered here in the UK. Provisions are in place for rehabilitation and aftercare. The tasered person will be seen by a doctor and monitored, and taken to hospital if necessary.

# Immigration

1. At what time does a person's status change from PACE to immigration?

When a detainee is arrested initially for an alleged offence the police may not be aware that the person is subject to immigration control until checks are carried out and this is confirmed.

2. How long should an immigration detainee be held?

Ideally not more than 2 days, but they can be detained in a station for up to 5 days, and 7 days if a flight has been booked prior to the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> day. ICV s should check this. Police cells are not ideal places for housing immigration or vulnerable detainees such as people suffering from mental health problems or self-harmers.

3. Why are detainees are not given the opportunity to collect their personal possessions from home?

There is a lack of resources and funding. Friends and family are encouraged to bring possessions to removal centres.

4. There has been a decrease in the number of detainees held under Immigration, but increase in length of stay between 2006 and 2007, why?

Police and MPA aware of issues and are addressing this. The problem is a lack of managed migration. Some come in legally but overstay. One preventative measure to be taken is carrier airlines taking more responsibility.

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# Answers to Tabled Questions and Comments

- Many police staff do not know what ICVs do, have never heard of us and are at a loss where to find our paperwork

Response: The role of ICVs is included in training provided to custody officers and DDOs. Training is being developed for PC gaolers who currently do not receive information on the role of ICVs.

- There should always be police staff at the ICV meetings. Sometimes this is not the case. This would speed up solutions.

Response: Coordinators and panel Chairs work hard to make sure police representatives are present at panel meetings. Action is always taken in cases where there are poor levels of attendance.

- Food and water should not be withheld from detainees. Police should ask/offer to detainees and inform detainees they can ask at any time.

Response: Food is offered at predetermined meal times. Food and drink would normally only be withheld if the detainee was violent or if there was a risk of harm to the detainee. In most cases custody staff are prepared to provide drink and sometimes food outside of meal times. They are also conscious of the need to provide cold drinks during hot weather.

- Detainees should have access to reading books/magazines

Response: Many custody managers agree with this and are happy for a supply of reading material to be kept if there is room and there is no risk of items causing harm to detainees. However the police are dependent on volunteers or other visitors to the custody suite bringing reading materials in.

- Spot checks needed regarding cleanliness of cells, storage rooms, kitchens, FME rooms.

Response: The inspection of these areas of the custody suite can be part of any custody visit. Custody officers and staff will make regular inspections and can call for special cleans when needed.

- Detainees should have automatic right to shower, wash face and brush teeth after overnight stay. They should not have to ask but should be offered by police staff as a matter of course. Including toilet paper.

Response: Detainees are entitled to have access to washing facilities; this is not a right however and can be denied in certain circumstances. Custody staff are often in a position to offer a wash and even a shower at the beginning of the day, however staff shortages, shift changeovers and court transport times sometimes interfere with this.

- Police staff say they can not take us to the custody suite because they are not contracted to do this.

Response: This is not true and any instances should be drawn to the attention of the custody sergeant or the police representative at panel meetings.

- Should ICVs use phone on the wall to call custody suite or wait 5 or more minutes for a custody officer to escort to the suite? Time lapse is too long at times.

Response: ICV panels often agree local arrangements with the police to guarantee quick entry times. These can involve using custody suite phone numbers or wall mounted phones in the front office. ICVs need to assess what length of delay is too long given local (and particular) circumstances and then take action when delays are unacceptable.

- ICVs should have access to code allowing access to front/back of police station quickly and unannounced.

Response: It is part of the role of the Custody Sergeant to perform a risk assessment before admitting anyone into the custody suite. If ICVs were to have free access then they may put themselves or others at risk. IVC clearance does not allow for unescorted access.

- All police staff should be aware of the ICV role

Response: This is true and improvements to training will help to ensure this. If a panel feels that police staff in their borough are not aware of their role, this should be raised with the custody manager, who can help to ensure that all staff are made aware of the ICV role.



- Concern about juveniles or any person in custody for several days. If a busy station they may have had no opportunity to walk and are unable to smoke - this must have a detrimental effect on their mental welfare.

Response: Smoking is now prohibited by law in police custody suites. Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) states that "Brief outdoor exercise shall be offered daily where practicable"; this will depend on the availability of staff and there being a suitable secure area for exercise being available.

# Conference Evaluation Summary

“I found out so much useful information.....  
A very worthwhile conference.”  
“It was interesting to meet ICVs from different boroughs.”

Many people indicated that the event far exceeded their expectations.

“Modernising Custody & Taser Trials – speakers were impressive, good grasp of their subject.”

100% of respondents said the conference was what they expected it to be.

97% of respondents found the food to be good or excellent

99% of respondents found the venue to be good or excellent

# Contacts

- Further information and updates that Alan Brown, from the Home Office, talked about can be found at [www.police.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.police.homeoffice.gov.uk)
- Details on the Independent Custody Visiting scheme in London can be found on the MPA website [www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships/icv](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships/icv)
- Further information on Independent Custody Visiting nationally can be found at [www.icva.org.uk](http://www.icva.org.uk)
- For UK Borders and Immigration Agency information see [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk)