

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNDERCOVER POLICE INQUIRY

METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE WRITTEN OBSERVATIONS ON DRAFT ISSUES LIST (MODULE ONE SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION SQUAD ISSUES)

Introduction

1. This document comprises the Metropolitan Police Service (herein “the MPS”)'s brief suggestions/observations regarding the Draft Module One Special Demonstration Squad Issues List. No submissions are made on the extent to which any particular aspect of the evidence on these issues can be considered in public without damage to the public interest and/or to individuals.

Suggestion/Observations

2. The MPS suggests that the following additions ought to be considered under the headings set out below:

Size, organisation and composition of the Special Demonstration Squad

3. New Question 1A: “What obligations of secrecy were imposed upon Special Demonstration Squad officers? Were these obligations the same as or different from obligations imposed on other Special Branch officers?”

Recruitment, selection and training

4. New Question 2A: “What factors motivated individual officers to join the Special Demonstration Squad?”
5. New Question 7A: “What training did Special Demonstration Squad officers receive, if any, after their deployments had begun?”

Targeting and initial authorisation

6. The MPS observes that many of the issues raised under this heading are matters (on the Inquiry's approach) for Module Two/managers and therefore assumes and invites correction if this assumption is incorrect that these questions are to be answered by simply asking what a Special Demonstration Squad undercover police officer's *understanding* was.

7. New Question 19A: “What involvement, if any, did Special Demonstration Squad undercover police officers have in determining which people/organisations would be targeted?”
8. New Question 22A: “Did targeting change during the course of a Special Demonstration Squad undercover police officer’s deployment?”

Conduct whilst deployed: participation in, or encouragement of, crime

9. New Question 33A: “Why did participation in criminal activity take place?”
10. New Question 34A: “Why was participation in criminal activity authorised?”

Conduct whilst deployed: contact with lawyers advising those with whom the undercover officer was mixing whilst deployed

11. New Question 51A: “What guidance or instructions, if any, did Special Demonstration Squad undercover police officers receive about becoming privy to third party legally privileged advice or information?”

Reporting: general

12. New Question 52A: “To whom did Special Demonstration Squad officers report information, and for what purposes?”

The prevention and detection of crime

13. New Question 88A: “How, and to what extent, did the work of the Special Demonstration Squad undercover officers help and/or hinder the prevention and detection of public disorder, particularly serious public disorder?”

Conduct of undercover police officers overall

14. Add to Question 109, “...(a) judged by what was understood at the time and if different (b) judged with the benefit of hindsight.”

15 March 2018

JONATHAN HALL QC

NICHOLAS CROPP