



RECEIVED  
15 DEC 2014

Joanne McCartney AM  
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee  
London Assembly  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE1 2AA

Cressida Dick  
Assistant Commissioner  
Specialist Crime and Operations

Room 1101  
New Scotland Yard  
10 Broadway  
London  
SW1H 0BG

Telephone: 020 7230 0341

5th December 2014

Our Ref:AC/SCO/

*Dear Joanne*

Please see the responses below to your questions following the Police & Crime Committee on 4 September, as received by the MPS on 22 September.

- **Any recommendations that the Independent Oversight Groups for Taser has made**

The group has made the following recommendations:

- Publication of usage figures to aid transparency & accountability. Statistics now published on TASER website.
- Greater community engagement to boost confidence.
- Corporate TASER presentation package now being delivered by SCO19 to community groups on all BOCUs.
- **Confirmation that there was a time limited opportunity to purchase the water canon from the German government and that other countries were interested in buying the water cannon**

The German Federal Police required the transaction to take place by the end of July 2014 as they had alternative commercial opportunities to pass the cannon on by that date. The German Federal Police informed the MPS that another country had expressed an interest in purchasing water cannon meaning that they could have sold the three purchased by the MPS to another nation.

- **The Committee also suggested that an Independent Reference Group (similar to the Independent Oversight Group for Taser) be established for the use of water cannon**

The establishment of a reference group has already been considered and a number of options are being considered. Firstly, the establishment of a public order reference group which might include water cannon, Secondly, the establishment of a specific water cannon reference group and thirdly, the expansion of the Taser reference group to include less lethal technology, taking in water cannon. The preferred option would be the establishment of a Wider Public Order reference group as this would cover all tactical options and help address concerns.

If, as we hope, water cannons are rarely used and rarely seen then a reference group purely for this subject may never have the opportunity to assess its use. A wider public order group will also help bring context to the use of force continuum.

- **The Committee would be invited to view how the water cannon would work, at the appropriate time when the water cannon were fitted, safe, licensed and operators had been trained**

Once the necessary licenses have been given and sufficient staff have been trained, the MPS would be happy to invite committee members to an MPS location where water cannon be demonstrated and members will have an opportunity to ask questions.

- **Assurance that borough police would co-operate in the Trap pilot scheme (to share information about vulnerable young people and adults between the boroughs of Lambeth, Southwark and Croydon)**

Our understanding is that the bid for TRAP is yet to be submitted and as such we are unable to comment at this point.

- **Professionalism - A summary of prosecutions under Operation Tiberius**

The Operation Tiberius report mentions a number of officers who are, to varying degrees, believed to have involved in corrupt relationships with individuals engaged in criminality. This ranges from officers where significant intelligence about corruption had been developed over time to colleagues of these officers who are linked purely through association, without a substantive intelligence case against them. To quantify numbers concerned may compromise the safety of individuals and as a result the MPS will not provide this information.

*Yours sincerely  
Cressida*

**Cressida Dick  
Assistant Commissioner  
Specialist Crime & Operations**

*ALSCO -*