

12 December 2016

Steve O'Connell AM Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee Member for Croydon and Sutton

(via email)

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe QPM, MBA, MA (Oxon) Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis 4-5 Buckingham Gate London SW1E 6JP

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Dec Steve.

I am writing in response to your letter dated 29 November 2016, which I acknowledged 2 December promising to provide you with the information you requested.

The answers to the questions you raised during the Police and Crime Committee Meeting on 17 November are attached as an Annex to this letter.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe Commissioner

Answers to Questions raised during PCC Q & A, 17 November

 Provide a list of people who received a copy of the full, unredacted report of Sir Richard Henriques' Independent Review of the MPS's handling of non-recent sexual allegations about public figures, and the conditions under which it was provided for their use.

The report was provided to the following external bodies:

- The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime Chief Executive and Deputy Mayor for Crime and Policing
- The Independent Police Complaints Commission
- The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
- The Director of Public Prosecutions

NB: Although Northumbria were provided with a copy, they were only given the chapter pertaining to Op Midland and not the other chapters.

Internally it has been provided to:

- The Commissioner
- AC Gallan
- Advisory Group members
- Operation Winter Key (four officers have access to the report)
- The five officers under investigation
- A Senior Lawyer within our Directorate of Legal Services
- Write to the Committee about the way in which the MPS will take forward the lessons learnt in relation to its relationships with the media and the impact of social media on policing.

A number of the recommendations in Sir Richard's review impact upon the information released by policing in relation to an investigation, a process covered by MPS and national media policies. These include the details released in connection with the arrest, search, interview or bail of any suspect, the circumstances under which a suspect would be named by police, the public statements made by police if no further action is to be taken and the actions taken to minimise the risk of leaks of confidential information.

Furthermore, Sir Richard also made recommendations that would require legislation including a right of anonymity for suspects prior to arrest, and possible statutory controls on the media where a police investigation is underway.

I said on publication of the review's key findings that the police and criminal justice should give Sir Richard's recommendations detailed consideration. The MPS has committed to consult with the Home Office, the National Police Chiefs Council, Police and Crime Commissioners, the College of Policing and statutory and voluntary partners in the criminal justice system. This will include organisations representing the interests of the news media.

The Deputy Commissioner will oversee this process, and our Assistant Commissioner for Professionalism will lead the consultation on behalf of the MPS.

The MPS will undertake to update the Police and Crime Committee on progress at the next meeting.

• Provide the figures for the last five and a half years on how many terrorist attacks in London has been thwarted.

The Security Service owns the Government data on the number of plots foiled. I am not in a position to provide figures for the last five and a half years on how many terrorist attacks in London had be thwarted - for reasons of national security the number of terror plots foiled is not routinely reported in this way. However there has been a recent release by the Security Service which confirms that 12 terror plots have been foiled in the past three years.