

KATE GREEN
DEPUTY MAYOR
OF GREATER
MANCHESTER

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Date: 2nd July 2025

Dear Home Secretary,

SUBJECT: An inspection of the police response to the public disorder in July and August 2024: Tranche 2

I write in response to the recent publication of the '*An inspection of the police response to the public disorder in July and August 2024: Tranche 2*' report on 7th May 2025.

I am pleased that Greater Manchester Police (GMP) was highlighted throughout the report in respect of positive practice. This included GMP's public order public safety (POPS) community safety intelligence team being part of the force's intelligence bureau and the substantial number of arrests and charges GMP made and achieved in connection with the disorder. As of 22 January 2025, GMP had made 194 arrests and charged 129 suspects, with 105 already prosecuted and convicted.

The report identified three recommendations. All three recommendations require a national plan to be forged through collaboration between NPCC, Chief Constables, College of Policing and Home Office and GMP are committed to actively contributing to the formation and delivery of those plan as appropriate and required.

While there are no specific Causes of Concerns, recommendations, or AFIs directly applicable to GMP, I have discussed the report with the Chief Constable and have been provided with an assessment of the force's position in relation to the recommendations. That assessment is summarised below.

Recommendation 1

With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables, working with the College of Policing and the Home Office, should create a plan and begin work to improve the police service's capacity and capability to respond to widespread serious disorder.

They should plan to:

- **in consultation with the Home Office, review the public order public safety (POPS)-related elements of the Strategic Policing Requirement and add relevant specialist capabilities, beginning with investigators and intelligence resources;**
- **complete a full assessment of the suitability and availability of personal protective equipment for all POPS trained officers, including mounted branches and dog units;**

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- **make sure that every police force or region can rapidly deploy drones during POPS incidents;**
- **develop and provide guidance on the use of drones within the College of Policing's POPS authorised professional practice;**
- **review the range of available tactical options, equipment and technology to make sure officers can quickly and safely disperse people who take part in disorder; and**
- **review POPS training at all levels, including an assessment of the adequacy of the current fitness test for level 2 officers.**

Locally, GMP through its Public Order Public Safety (POPS), Health & Safety and Uniform governance processes continues to review the suitability and availability of personal protective equipment for all POPS trained officers. That work has led in the last 12 months to the introduction of metatarsal guards to provide additional lower limb protection for public order staff, the provision of larger sized public order helmets, and continuing discussions around the provision of 'bump caps': reinforced baseball caps for some specialist public order roles.

GMP has also developed a dedicated Drone Team which was effectively deployed during last Summer's disorder. Through Blue Light partner collaboration, GMP can also access other emergency service drone provision.

Recommendation 2

With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables, working with the College of Policing, should create a plan and begin work to improve how the police service mobilises public order public safety (POPS) resources.

They should plan to:

- **give the National Police Chiefs' Council POPS lead (national co-ordinating gold commander) explicit authority to set the national strategy for POPS mobilisation, and full command and control of the deployment of tier 3 resources;**
- **improve the capacity and capability of all regional information and co-ordination centres, including providing better guidance and a common operating framework; • improve the technology available to the National Police Coordination Centre, so that it can deploy and manage mutual aid more effectively and efficiently – the police service should be able to access information on the identity, number, location and nature of resources; skills available; length of deployments; and operational status of vehicles;**
- **prioritise a national structured debriefing process about the police response to disorder that supports rapid learning and improvement; and • increase the police service's POPS mobilisation testing regime and take decisive action on its results.**

In relation to Regional Information and Coordination Centres (RICC), GMP are currently the North-West regional lead Force for the management of mutual aid requests both at a National level through NPoCC, and through North-West regional forces (Cheshire, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside and North Wales.) The framework supporting this is a Force mobilisation plan that consists of a set of procedures and principles that assist GMP coordinate and deploy resources in response to a spontaneous incident or emerging policing problems, requiring support that exceeds either a District or the Force's own capability and capacity. The North-West RICC capacity and capability while stretched during the 2024 Summer disorder, functioned extremely well, and GMP and others will benefit from the guidance and common operating framework that recommendation 2 requires to be established nationally.

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In relation to accessing relevant information, to streamline resource management, GMP is working towards the implementation of Chronicle software widely used by other forces to coordinate public order resources.

Recommendation 3 With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables, working with the College of Policing and the Home Office should create a plan and begin work to improve the well-being support the police service gives to its officers and staff.

They should plan to:

- create formal protocols with ambulance services and hospital trusts for the treatment of police officers who are injured on duty;
- assess how public order public safety planning and mobilisation, at force, regional and national levels, considers and prioritises the well-being of officers and staff, such as making sure they have access to food and drink, rest and rotation, personal protective equipment and toilet facilities;
- consider whether public order public safety roles should be defined as 'high risk', particularly in police forces that face frequent, extensive and severe disorder;
- review whether officers deployed in hostile incidents need additional support on a case-by-case basis; and
- examine the level of contribution that each police force, and the Home Office, makes to police treatment and well-being centres, so that all officers and staff who need treatment can access it.

In relation to welfare and wellbeing of officers and staff in relation to both public order and large-scale critical or major incidents, GMP is already looking to strengthen its offer, reflecting its commitment to respond to debriefing and staff feedback. GMP has an existing emergency food and drink response plan, which includes a vehicle capable of supplying hot drinks, water and emergency food packs. Processes are in place to supplement this with hot food provision. An enhanced vehicle offer is being scoped.

Further, GMP makes a £15K a year contribution to the Northern Convalescent Home Grant that contributes to the Police treatment centre in Harrogate, and this can be reviewed to ensure that relevant staff have access.

As reflected in the response to the Tranche 1 report it is widely recognised that the conditions were such that the disorder could have been more widespread across Greater Manchester. It is my view that the GMP policing operation in place combined with the system response from partners through our Greater Manchester Resilience Forum (GMRf) helped to prevent disorder from occurring. I am fully assured that should we see similar wide scale disorder again in the future, Greater Manchester Police and its partners will be ready to respond effectively and efficiently.

Yours Sincerely.



Kate Green
Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester

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