

## Students' Action 8/9th December 2010

### **INFORMATION**

On 8th and 9th December 2010 members of various Students Group's are planning demonstrations in Central London. These are planned to coincide with the House of Commons Vote on the increase in tuition fees on 9th December.

#### 8th December 2010

Although there are no marches or demonstrations notified to police or other authorities, there are numerous open source information feeds that suggest that there will be demonstrations throughout the Capital. More information may become apparent and more intelligence will be given shortly.

#### 9th December 2010

At present there are two specific notified demonstrations that we are aware of.

NUS - Lobby oo Parliament between 1pm and 3pm. What this means we are unsure of, but this is a democratic right and we must be cognisant to try and facilitate this if possible

There will also be a Rally and speeches in Victoria Embankment.  
This is a National call-out and the numbers could be around 20,000.

ULU - plan a march from Mallet Street to the rally, via Parliament Square. The route is the traditional one, along Kingsway, around Aldwych, along The Strand to Trafalgar Square. They will then go along The Mall, turn into Horseguards and down to Great George Street. They will then turn left into Parliament Street/Whitehall and back up turning right into the rally on Victoria Embankment.

### **INTELLIGENCE**

To be given by CO11 and SO15 staff.

### **METHOD**

It is Gold's intention that this event will be policed in a manner compatible with the Commissioner's 'Five Ps' and in particular: Pride, Professionalism and Presence.

The strategic intentions of this operation are:

- To provide a lawful and proportionate policing response to protest, balancing the needs and rights of protesters with those impacted by the protest;
- To maintain public order;

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- To work with event organisers / participants and other agencies to minimise criminal activity and anti-social behaviour associated with the event;
- To provide appropriate security advice and support to individuals and occupiers of premises who may be targeted, to reassure, maintain the peace and prevent crime;
- To prevent crime and provide a reasonable and proportionate response if crime is committed;
- To maintain access to, and the security of, the Palace of Westminster.

### Overview of both days:

I know I need not remind you that Protest is not an offence and that the freedom for people to meet and express their views is a fundamental element of a healthy democracy. Our freedoms of Assembly and Expression are rights that are expressly protected by UK law. As such, we, as a Public Authority have a positive duty to uphold them. However, we also need to protect the rights and freedoms of the people affected, to go about their daily lawful business. It is our job to try to balance these two competing demands.

Necessarily, some inconvenience will be caused when large numbers of people peacefully assemble to express their views and we know they will be noisy and they may upset others with their views. These reasons, in themselves are not sufficient to require police intervention. Before taking action, officers must be clear in their mind of the necessity to intervene and then ensure that only proportionate measures are taken.

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Intelligence is limited. Recent student protests although in the main well behaved; have shown that we do need to be able to respond quickly and effectively to isolated incidents of disorder and crime when they occur.

To do this, we have developed a cunning plan: The essence of which is flexibility. The march from Mallet Street will be accompanied in the usual way and the area around the front of Parliament Square has been barriered off in a Wapping box configuration. Because of the lack of specific intelligence regarding other planned action, the policing response has been developed around the use of a number of 'key response' Bronzes. We don't want large numbers of police on display if they are not required.

### **Deployments for 8th December 2010 (In Black)**

### **Deployments for 9th December 2010 (In Red)**

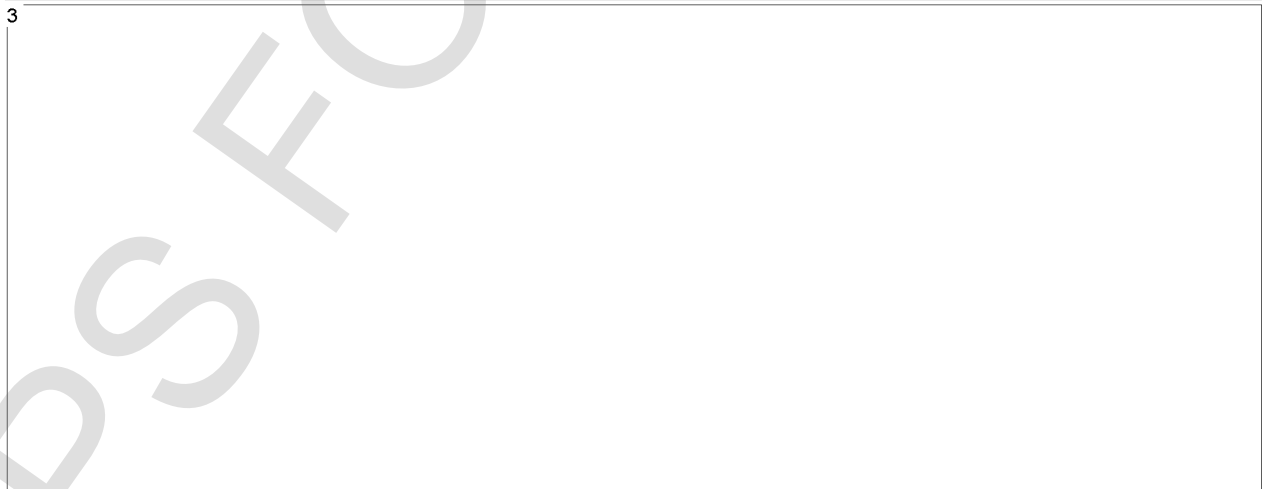
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In addition: BX Complaints- DI McKellvie, Bx Intel - CI Mark Sheeran, Bx Traffic  
CI Cartwright, Bx Crime - DCI Paul Webster, Bx Community - DCI Lundrigan, Bx  
Media - Supt Pendry and lastly, Bx BTP - Supt Henigan

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### **Powers & policy**

Although this event falls within the SOCPA area, we are not anticipating using SOCPA legislation due to the difficulties in securing successful prosecutions.

However, breeches will be considered in the context of the whole event.

### **Likely Student Tactics**

'**Surging**', whereby part of a march will slow or stop and then rush forward, this may be startling for those who have not experienced it before, but generally does not require police intervention.

'**Sit downs**', these should be initially isolated, but not contained (note the difference- the intention is to stop people joining the sit down, but let people leave.) The 'isolation' will initially be implemented by the serials accompanying the protestors, and if necessary supplemented by reserves. Those participants not involved should be encouraged to move on and around, with those remaining being dealt with as appropriate. The 'on scene' Bx will assess the degree of disruption caused and decide if removal or arrest is appropriate. Officers should be patient and use the time to persuade and cajole individuals to move, and collect the best evidence of any offences.

**Disorder** This should initially be isolated and contained by the serials accompanying the protestors, supplemented by the reserves. Those participants not involved should be encouraged to move on and around, with those remaining

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being dealt with as appropriate. As with the 'sit downs' above, the 'on scene' Bx will assess the situation and decide the appropriate course of action.

### **Building Incursions**

Previous experience indicates that it is likely that groups of individuals will try to occupy 'high profile' buildings. This will not be allowed to happen! The following powers should be considered:

**Prevention** - S3 Criminal Law Act 1967 provides a power to use reasonable force to prevent crime, this may be appropriate when stopping individuals or groups seeking to 'rush' buildings, particularly if judged against the criminal damage and other offences that occurred in Millbank Towers.

Trespass at the Palace of Westminster and Portcullis House is an offence under section 128 of SOCPA 2005. (However, s3 CLA provides the power for prevention).

**Dealing with Trespassers** - Section 68 and 69 CJPOA 1994 creates an offence of Aggravated Trespass if intended to intimidate a person undertaking a lawful activity, and provides a power for the senior officer present to direct those trespassing on land or in buildings to leave. If they refuse, there is a power of arrest for a Constable.

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### **Contingencies:**

#### **Mass lobby of Parliament.**

If a large number of people express their intention to lobby Parliament, they will be directed to Old Palace Yard where they may wait until called forward, in groups of twenty or so, by Palace of Westminster staff to Lobby.

#### **Troublesome Groups**

If such groups are identified, FIT and EG teams may be deployed, and if appropriate, reserve serials will be deployed to monitor.

#### **Containment**

This is a detention short of arrest. In public order situations the lawful authority is most likely to be derived from our common law duty to prevent a breach of the peace. It is recognised that innocent people may be caught up in a containment and we must ensure that it is enforced for no longer than is necessary. A *Containment Officer* should be appointed as soon as possible to oversee its implementation and management and also to communicate with people contained and the containing police officers. The authorising officer should review the impact of the containment and the necessity of its continuance regularly.

**A Containment Officer** should be appointed promptly by the person authorising the containment, to:

#### **Plan:**

- The location of release points



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- A release and arrest plan (Identification, searching, evidence gathering (FIT and EGs) method of release: escorted, unescorted, numbers etc.)
- Ensure evidence capture (FIT & EGs)

**Communicate:** via Airwave, Vehicle PAs, megaphone, Facebook, Twitter, Bluetooth, MSN etc. to detained people and police officers:

- Of the legal basis for the containment
- Of the location of release points

**Consider:** Discretionary release protocol (Accredited Media, non-violent individuals, vulnerable people, those requiring medical help.)

**Welfare:** Water, food, lavatories, weather and the welfare of officers.

Encourage officers to communicate with detained individuals, identify vulnerable people and let them know how much discretion they have.

### **Administration and Communications**

Dress - Full PPE with flat caps and yellow jackets or yellow bibs and baseball caps.

Met vests are to be worn.

Numerals and Name badges must be on display - Sergeants and Inspectors will be held to account!

Proper headgear - including walking to and from feeding centres or shops.

### **Negative photo opportunities:**

Ideally we want to be able to use our carriers again in the future. Therefore, please park them out of 'harms' way or leave the driver with it. No carriers to be parked in Whitehall or Parliament Square without the consent of appropriate

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Bronze. If drinking coffee or reading the paper when embussed, please be discrete.

Form 3166 - Please ensure you are using the current form which includes the professional standards page. These forms are an essential aid to CO11. Please take the time to complete the forms properly; they should be an accurate record of your serial and activities during the event.

Communications - Special Operations Room - GT is open for this policing operation and the channels are listed in your operation order.

All Bronzes and Sub-Bronzes to monitor Command Channel. I will have direct access to this and can and will give instructions and plans if required.

DOI will now give an overview of the radio network and plans for tomorrow as we are on a protected network and we will need specialist radio's.

That concludes my briefing are there any questions?