

RESTRICTED – Chief Superintendent Andy McKechnie  
VERSION 1  
8th November 2010  
**Draft Tactical Plan**

**NUS March 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

## **Information**

***To be finalised next week when info is confirmed.***

I have also read and understand the Alex Burrows Event Plan (28/10/10)

## **Intelligence**

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## **Strategy**

It is the intention of the MPS that we will deliver our core police responsibilities at events and in a manner compatible with the values of the Metropolitan Police Service.

Our core responsibilities are:

- The prevention and detection of crime
- The protection of life and property
- The maintenance of the Queen's Peace

Specific strategic intentions for this policing operation:

- 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;
- To prevent crime and take all reasonable steps to intervene and bring offenders to justice if crime is committed:
- To work together with event organisers / participants and other agencies to minimise criminal activity and anti-social behaviour associated with the event.
- To provide an appropriate counter-terrorism response and security advice, commensurate to the threat level.

This tactical plan has been developed to support Gold's Policing Strategy which is as follows:

### **Threats**

A summary of key issues arising as a result of the likely impact of the event

- Members of the Public

This march takes place in central London on a weekday.

Those most affected are likely to be:

- Place of Westminster community – an SO7 Bx has been appointed to liaise before, during and after this event. Barrier plans and policing support have been put in place that aims to allow ongoing access to POW for foot and vehicular traffic. SO7 officers will be on post to assist MPs and Lords at key points – Bridge St for vehicles and outside Black Rod entrance for pedestrians. House authorities are aware of the arrangements.
- Businesses in and around Bridge St – local messaging will ensure that this small community is made aware of the march and SNT support will be key
- Drivers in and around the area - Westminster Council and TFL are the highway authorities and have approved the use of roads for this event. However we have an impact on the length of closures. Traffic messaging will alert drivers to the closures and congestion. A police traffic plan will be in place to minimise the impact but congestion will occur and has to be balanced against the rights of those to protest. I will however seek to restore traffic flows as soon as possible and will do that piecemeal where appropriate. The use of single barrier lines does have an impact on traffic flows due to set up and take down times but is less impactful than delta or Wapping boxes that have been used in this area previously.

### Officers and Staff

Officers will be fully briefed before being deployed on this event and will be dressed in uniform appropriate to the level of threat evident of the day. Met Vests will be worn.

Officers will be commanded by Advanced Public Order Commanders and the use of Level 1, 2 and 3 and traffic officers to perform roles has been designed to reflect the levels of risk and the roles police may need to undertake.

Student groups in the past have used tactics such as a 'surging' and sit downs that have led to officers intervening or responding in a way that can increase tensions and lead to force being used. The key to protecting officers from allegations that they have exceeded their remit in such circumstances is good leadership, clear briefings and clarity of the role of police at protest. Bx commanders will receive from me clear guidance on possible police responses to a range of 'what ifs'. I will seek to ensure that any requirements I place on my command team mean that officers intervene only when it is justifiable, balanced and proportionate.

### **Powers and Policies**

Gold's Strategy underpins the policing plan for this event.

This plan has been developed based on upon the Keeping the Peace manual and makes use of the Conflict Management Model.

I have considered all of the Articles relating to Human Rights legislation and believe that the following are relevant to this event:-

Article 10 - Freedom of Expression - Everyone has a right to freedom of expression. On this event, the NUS have met with police and we are in the process of supporting their requirements and their plans.

Police may intervene, after considering the needs and right of groups involved, if they believe there is a likelihood of a breach of the peace, public disorder, and damage to property or serious disruption to the life of the community.

Article 11 - Freedom of Assembly and Association - Everyone has the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association with others. As shown above in article 10, police will not intervene unless aggravating factors are present.

Article 5 - Right to Liberty and Security - Containment is a tactical option that a Bronze or Silver may consider necessary for policing this event. If containment is carried out, communication will be key to keeping those persons involved apprised of the reasons why and how long this is likely to last. The need for the containment will be reviewed regularly by Silver. If the

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containment is likely to be lengthy, Silver will consider the designation of a containment officer to consider the needs and concerns of those persons contained.

Any decision taken by myself or command team in relation to these articles will be Proportionate, Legal, Necessary and I will ensure we account for and rationalise any decisions made. All officers will be briefed about their responsibilities under the Human Rights Act 2000.

General policing powers will be used throughout the policing of this event, but specific briefing detail will be given around use of Public Order Legislation pertaining to demonstrations and likelihood of disorder, stop and search legislation, in particular Section 1 PACE and Section 60 and 60AA CJA. Section 60 and/or Section 60AA will be implemented only where appropriate on authority of Silver.

Use of Section 12 of the Public Order Act, pertaining to processions, and Breach of the Peace legislation will only be used under the guidance of BX Commanders. Rationale surrounding the implementation of these powers or the use of containment must be fully communicated to officers policing the event and to those persons being policed under the said legislation. Silver will be informed in any case before containment or S12 is implemented,

All officers deployed on this event will be fully briefed as to their roles and responsibilities and concerns around a proportionate and transparent policing response before going ground assigned; checks will be put in place by Bxs to make sure that they understand the roles and tasks they have been given to undertake.

Barrier plan - This barrier plan is typical of those seen at events in central London and I believe it is not something organisers or marchers will be surprised to see. It has been developed by me for a number of reasons which are accounted for below:

1. It will enable to marchers to progress **safely**, ensure smooth/consistent crowd flows into Parliament Square, prevent opportunistic moves into the northbound carriageway where traffic will be flowing, and will provide protection to Downing Street, King Charles Street and POW access and egress.
2. It will also thwart efforts previously seen with these groups, whereby the **white tapes are broken** and crowds move outside of the march route. This type of movement obstructs the highway, puts drivers in fear of crime, can create disorder, and the absence of physical barriers would increase the likelihood of officers having to potentially use force that could otherwise have been avoided by this proportionate approach.
3. In particular, pedestrians marching amongst traffic from the main section of the march can lead to confrontations with other road users, and the

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potential for crime e.g. assaults, criminal damage and public order offences are dramatically increased. Therefore this measure is a reasonable restriction intended by me to **prevent breaches of the peace and crime (S3 CLA)**

There is nothing in my use of policy or powers preventing individual members of the public from crossing the barriers but the type of barrier will mean they are unable to cross at all points. Therefore officers will be briefed to direct them to the established road crossing points, underpasses and any safe gaps.

#### Roles and responsibilities of police and Stewards

Police are deployed on this event in line with Gold's Strategic Intention, which includes preventing crime and disorder.

There will be stewards on the event and relevant Bronze's will discuss with the organisers the roles and responsibilities of those stewards so their capabilities are understood.

#### **Command Team**

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## Tactical Plan

The overall approach is as follows:

<b>Pre event</b>
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- Bx 1

Bx1 will aim to ensure that policing support, that compliments the policing strategy, is given to the event organisers and stewards at the meeting point in Horseguards Avenue.

Bx 1 will be responsible for ensuring that a single row of public order barriers is in place along the central reservation of Whitehall and Parliament Street and also on the east side of Parliament Street where the lanes expand from 2 to 4 (as per plans).

Bx 1 will assign <sup>3</sup> [ ] to police the front of the march and they will manage the assembly point.

Bx1 and <sup>4</sup> [ ] will also work with the organisers to monitor crowd build up and implement any contingencies that may be required to facilitate larger than expected crowd numbers.

Bx 1 will be responsible ensuring engagement with the organiser and informing the wider policing command team of the departure times.

Bx 1 will be responsible for liaising with Bx Reserves and the organisers to ensure that any large groups arriving from the direction of Trafalgar Square are identified early thus allowing the organiser (with support from Bx 1 where appropriate) to facilitate their arrival at the meet point.

Bx 1 will be responsible for ensuring that <sup>5</sup> [ ] are deployed at the start in a position that will allow for the front and the first half of the east side the march to have a policing presence that is proportionate to the mood an numbers in attendance. Single patrol officers are to be in sight of a colleague is the default. Their role is to respond to incidents, provide public reassurance and facilitate protest in accordance with the overall strategy.

Bx 1 will ensure that <sup>6</sup> [ ] is deployed at the start in a position that will allow for the rear and the second half of east side the march to have a policing presence that is proportionate to the mood an numbers in attendance. Single patrolling officer in sight of a colleague is the default. Their role is to respond to incidents, provide public reassurance and facilitate protest in accordance with the overall strategy.

Bx 1 will ensure that from 11.00am onwards <sup>7</sup> [redacted] maintain a proportionate presence at Downing Street to prevent disorder and crime occurring in relation to those vulnerable premises. <sup>9</sup> [redacted]

<sup>8</sup> [redacted]

Bx 1 will also ensure that liaison is maintained on the ground between Serial 105 and SO6 at Downing St regarding PMQs.

Bx 1 will also seek to identify elements in the march that may require a reserve serial deployment to monitor their activity where concerns arise over any possible criminal actions or potential disorder. Deployment and command can then be arranged prior to the march leaving.

Bx1 will be responsible for the initial engagement with the steward intervention team and will try and negotiate a peaceful outcome with any demonstrator who aims to disrupt the march or cause criminal offences, including highway obstruction. If necessary, Bx1 will isolate and contain the incident and seek assistance and/or guidance from silver about further tactic intervention.

- Bx Reserves will aim to ensure:

That the assemblies currently being advertised for ULU, LSE and Trafalgar Square are monitored and that a proportionate number of police are available from the Reserves to perform core policing responsibilities in accordance with the overall strategy e.g. maintain public order, prevent crime and respond appropriately if committed, minimise crime and anti social behaviour.

The looser arrangements for the assemblies outside of the organised march are a challenge to this plan in so far as the intentions of those involved are not so well known, identifying an organiser may not be possible and the potential use of the highway by those assembling may not have been sanctioned by traffic authorities, However, all policing activity by the Reserve serials should still be carried out in accordance with the core principles of Gold's intentions. (See appendix A) and must acknowledge the Articles 5, 10 and 11 Human Rights Act.

Where minor breaches of the law occur (e.g. highway obstruction) the police response must be considered in the context of the above paragraph and effective communication and the correct policing tone will be key tactics in minimising further issues.

Bx Reserves will liaise with BX 1 and seek directions in relation to the best way in which to monitor those arriving from Trafalgar Square - ensuring that where possible NO protestors enter the northbound carriageway of Whitehall at any point – public safety issues re traffic flowing north.

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The initial postings for Reserves are likely to be made on the day when the most up to date and accurate information will be prioritised.

Although the NUS have been fully cooperative with police and together have agreed a plan and route, other organisers who are coming in support of the march have failed to act in the same manner. Therefore due to the lack of cooperation and any unknown risk, I have a duty of care to the police officers and peaceful protesters and public to take precautionary tactical options to react if necessary. One serial of reserves will be wearing PPE under their MET vests for an immediate response. However they will not be deployed in this PPE unless authorised by silver and only when the requirement is proportionate to the incident. This is a precaution tactic to provide sufficient support in any violent situation. I am aware this can be seen as provocative and this is why they will not be deployed without intelligence or situation arising.

- Bx 2 will aim to ensure

That the public order barriers are in position on

- a) The kerb line of the footways adjacent to POW
- b) The roadway from the crossing point at Parliament St to the barriers next to Winston Churchill's statue (these will prevent people entering the roads north in Whitehall where traffic will be flowing-safety issue)
- c) The roadway from Sector 1 border in east Parliament St across the length of POW and to the traffic island at Abingdon St, then beyond to the CORUS barriers at the edge of Sector 2. These are in place to keep the routes to POW open to traffic and also to thwart efforts previously seen with these groups, whereby the white tapes are broken and crowds move outside of the march route. This type of move obstructs the highway, puts drivers in fear of crime, can create disorder, and puts officers in a position of having to potentially use force that could otherwise have been avoided.

That sufficient stewards are in place to facilitate the flow of marchers along the route and that a response team of stewards is available on the east side of the barrier line outside Carriage Gates to advise any marchers trying to climb over the line to return.

That liaison on the ground with police officers at Carriage Gates has been achieved.

A proportionate number of police will be deployed <sup>10</sup> [ ] to the footways and carriageway (when closed) outside POW. Their role is to respond to incidents, provide public reassurance and facilitate protest in accordance with the overall strategy.



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That <sup>11</sup> [ ] is positioned so they can respond to any incidents on the route in Sector 2.

**During the march**

- Bx 1 will aim to ensure:

That the organisers start the march on time, or understands and communicates delays to Sx.

That the march is escorted front side and rear as outlined above.

That <sup>12</sup> [ ] positioned proportionately in Whitehall and Parliament St so they can respond to any malicious breaches of the barrier lines. Their primary role is to prevent breaches of the peace, and prevent crime and disorder being committed. They should also be responsible for monitoring the crossing points so that the public can use these to move across the area and also to prevent the marchers moving off the route at those points, if as a consequence, it is believed that a breach of the peace or crime is likely to occur.

That any contingencies outlined below which are needed on Sector 1 are coordinated under her command, where possible in consultation with Silver.

That all officers from her serials move with the march through Sector 2 and do not get distracted into dealing with issues on that Sector where Bx 2 has resources allocated to deal.

That <sup>13</sup> [ ] removed from Whitehall and redeployed to the remainder of the march, if appropriate, once it has moved through that area.

That her officers pay attention <sup>14</sup> [ ]

That when <sup>15</sup> [ ] arrives at the Rally point they immediately liaise with the Rally organiser. Police presence at the rally point should be proportionate and aimed only at meeting core policing responsibilities.

- Bx Reserves

As directed by Silver

<sup>16</sup> [ ] to monitor vicinity of 20 Great Smith Street – Department of Education.

- Bx 2 will aim to ensure

That all stewards carry out their functions and any issues are reported to Silver.

That a proportionate policing presence is maintained on the east of the march as it moves through Sector 2 – <sup>17</sup> Their role is to respond to incidents, provide public reassurance and facilitate protest in accordance with the overall strategy.

The west side (Parliament Square) is currently fenced off and patrolled by private security guards due to ongoing criminal/civil litigation. Bronze 2 has already liaised with the private security company and informed them about the march and they may wish to consider additional security. Police will continue to liaise with them but will only assist should criminal acts be committed.

That the barrier line is monitored to respond to incursions made by marchers onto the carriageway set aside for access to POW, and where this occurs implement contingencies outlined below.

That any contingencies outlined below which are needed on Sector 2 are coordinated under his command, where possible consultation with Silver.

That officers from Bx 1 serials move with the march through Sector 2 and do not get distracted into dealing with issues on his Sector.

That the flow of marchers at the exit of Parliament Square towards Millbank is monitored as it moves around the barrier crossing point, and the flow of other pedestrians north through that area is also monitored for safety reasons.

That the fixed protest site on the Parliament Square is monitored to prevent damage and disorder.

<b>Post march and rally</b>
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Traffic closures will be removed as soon as safe to do so and when barriers have been removed from carriageways.

I intend to open the roads around Whitehall and Parliament Square as a matter of priority.

Once the rally is underway I will review the intelligence and information available at that time, and amend resources appropriately.

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At this stage I am conscious of the fact that the rally point is close to POW. The possibility of large numbers of those involved in this protest passing back through Parliament Square will need close monitoring.

## **Policing Style**

I want officers to be pro-active and deal promptly with issues as they arise. Good communication is vital and officers will be expected to interact with the protestors and local community as much as possible. Proportionate and transparent policing within the event is crucial to preventing disorder due to miscommunication. Where tactics or cordons are implemented, officers will advise people as to the reasons why and what action is expected from them. Any allegation of crime will be dealt with appropriately at the time, unless unreasonable to do so. Contingencies are shown below and supervisors are to make sure that they know what they are. PSUs will be fully de-briefed prior to dismissal and PSU supervisors will be asked to account for team activity throughout the course of the day.

## **Professional standards**

I expect all officers deployed on this event to look and behave in a professional manner at all times. Appropriate uniform will be worn as per the Op Order. Correct insignia denoting rank and number must be attached to and clearly visible at all times on all items of outer clothing; supervisors are responsible for checking that this is done and must note the fact they have checked this in their 3166. Beat Duty Helmets, not flat caps are to be worn by level 2 officers at the event. Hair must be tied back off the collar. Ties or cravats will be worn under Met vests and yellow jackets will be done up properly with the sleeves rolled down. Full PPE must be available for use. Officers should be discouraged from using mobile phones for personal calls as this detracts them from their core role. Supervisors will be asked to account for the actions of their staff, should these standards not be met.

There is no intelligence to suggest the need for Public order kit at this stage. Therefore, Reserve serials will wear beat duty uniform and their HVP jackets. All officers will wear full HV jackets due to the high likelihood of working amongst traffic.

## Policing Contingencies

Below I have outlined the contingencies which I feel are most relevant to this event. The number of 'what ifs' are many and varied and not all can be catered for in advance within this policing plan. This plan will be reviewed and updated as necessary up to and during the event

<p>Offensive/threatening or abusive chanting/banners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bx 1 to ensure 1 PSU Inspector is tasked from the start of the event with appointing a PS to proactively monitor this issue at the assembly point – briefing to include legislation</li> <li>• Where offences are suspected – efforts should be immediately made to prevent further activity by offenders by warning to desist</li> <li>• Evidence of offence should be considered and where sufficient action should be considered as follows               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider intervention at that time - if safe to do so</li> <li>2. If not safe, report to BX to consider action</li> <li>3. Bx to consider request for further resources or monitoring suspect and taking intervention action away from scene</li> <li>4. Independent witnesses should be sought where possible</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>In all circumstances evidence Gathering Team deployment should be considered to record offenders actions and police response.</p>
<p>Groups from LSE or ULU block road junctions prior to arrival at NUS meet point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bx Reserves to be informed and consider traffic support to filter drivers away</li> <li>• Seek organisers and communicate to determine intentions</li> <li>• Communicate with organiser intervention team and seek their assistance in negotiating a peaceful and quick outcome</li> <li>• Provide HVP to prevent crimes between public and protestors</li> <li>• Consider timelines – those involved needing to move soon to meet others along route</li> <li>• Consider rights to assemble and expression against localised inconvenience</li> <li>• Inform Silver if the issue is likely to be prolonged or serious</li> <li>• Containment can be considered and efforts</li> </ul>

	<p>made to free movement of traffic if proportionate, legal, necessary (Sx to authorise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider also arrests for Highway Obstruction and release shortly after if proportionate, legal, necessary (Sx to authorise)</li> </ul>
Intelligence received regarding weapons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silver to be informed</li> <li>Silver to consider supporting intelligence and offences from previous events</li> <li>Silver to consider authorising Section 60 and/or Section 60AA and inform serials of parameters of use where appropriate e.g. types of person and areas for use</li> </ul>
Spontaneous march from event area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sector Bx to respond by seeking out organiser</li> <li>Establish intentions</li> <li>Report to Silver the numbers and mood</li> <li>Silver or Bx to consider preventing movement if breach of the peace is anticipated or public safety a concern (assaults, criminal damage to cars etc.)</li> <li>Implement absolute cordon or containment of crime / BoP imminent</li> <li>If march is considered peaceful – Silver to facilitate, consider traffic plans and best use of command team</li> <li>Consider use of EG team to record march and command team interactions at the scene</li> </ul>
Disorder on march	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sector Bx to use resources to isolate and contain offenders</li> <li>Communicate with organisers and seek to separate offenders from peaceful protestors</li> <li>Review in consultation with Silver</li> <li>Consider deployment of EG Teams asap to record further disorder or command team intervention activity</li> <li>Consider Reserve support</li> <li>Consider PPE issues</li> </ul>
Attempted incursion into POW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bx POW to respond and consider closing Gates</li> <li>Inform Sx and Gx (possible CRITINC)</li> <li>Bx 2 to use resources to isolate and contain offenders</li> <li>Bx 2 is responsible for perimeter and Bx POW the premises behind the perimeter</li> <li>Consider S128 SOCPA – liaise with SO7 for advice</li> <li>Bx POW to liaise with POW staff and seek their advice/requirements about police intervention</li> <li>Communicate with organisers and seek to separate offenders from peaceful protestors</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review in consultation with Silver</li> </ul>
Sit down Protest. Blocking route of march	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sector Bx monitoring of the sit-down group.</li> <li>• Negotiate and engage with group to establish their aims/intentions.</li> <li>• Initial allocation of resources to the sit-down group will be proportionate to the actions / intentions of the group and position of sit down protest.</li> <li>• Isolate and contain the sit-down</li> <li>• Work with stewards to keep march moving around sit down</li> <li>• Consider halting front of march to prevent split</li> <li>• Seek to get stewards and intervention team to intervene</li> </ul>
Sit down or static protest. Blocking route of traffic access to POW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure POW</li> <li>• Inform House authorities and SO7 SMT via Bx POW</li> <li>• Assess impact</li> <li>• Reduce likelihood of larger numbers – e.g. close barriers</li> <li>• Bx monitoring of the group.</li> <li>• Negotiate and engage with group to establish their aims/intentions.</li> <li>• Initial allocation of resources to group will be proportionate to the actions / intentions of the group and position of sit down protest.</li> <li>• Isolate and contain the sit-down</li> <li>• Work with stewards to keep march moving around sit down</li> <li>• Consider halting front of march to prevent split</li> <li>• Seek to get stewards to intervene</li> <li>• Review with Sx</li> </ul>
Building incursion other than POW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bx reserves to attend and assess</li> <li>• Liaise with building security and assess potential for further crimes.</li> <li>• Take action to prevent further crimes</li> <li>• Seek to communicate with organisers and seek intentions</li> <li>• Advice to building security re staff access/safety</li> <li>• Establish internal CCTV coverage</li> <li>• Liaise with Sx to determine next steps once immediate risks are covered</li> <li>• Inform Gx if Govt. premises involved - CRITINC</li> <li>• Consider criminal trespass offences, proportionality, necessity issues need to be considered</li> </ul>

Protest inside POW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bx POW to contact Sx ASAP</li> <li>• Gx to be informed - CRITINC</li> <li>• BX POW to implement SO7 contingency plans</li> <li>• Sx to support with resources</li> <li>• Sx to review with Bx POW and possibly SMT</li> <li>• Bx POW to liaise with POW staff and seek their advice/requirements about police intervention</li> </ul>
Fireworks, smoke canisters and flares	<div> <div>18</div> <div>E</div> </div>