

Investigation name:	Operation Aragon
IOPC reference:	2019/128766

> Summary of IOPC conclusions

A summary of our conclusions and rationale for the investigation is set out below.

> Staffordshire Police – Death or Serious Injury investigation

We found no indication that any person serving with the police may have committed a criminal offence or behaved in a manner that would justify the bringing of disciplinary proceedings.

> Performance

The investigation report sets out the actions that were taken by Staffordshire Police in response to the management of Mr Usman Khan following his release from prison.

We considered:

- (i) whether or not the performance of any person serving with the police was unsatisfactory; and
- (ii) what actions, (if any) it proposes to take in respect of their performance

In our opinion Staffordshire Police is **not** required to make those determinations because we are satisfied that the report does not raise any performance issues.

> Learning

We carefully considered whether there were any learning opportunities arising from the investigation. We make learning recommendations to improve policing and public confidence in the police complaints system and to prevent a recurrence of similar incidents. We identified several areas of learning and have progressed these under Section 10 of the Police Reform Act 2002.

We issued the following learning recommendations the National Police Chiefs' Council:

- The national policing lead for counter-terrorism (CT) should ensure that police officers involved in managing offenders released from prison following terrorism offences should be given appropriate and specific training in relation to the types of offenders that they are managing and the different risks that they pose.
- The national policing lead for counter-terrorism should ensure there are suitable policies and procedures in place in relation to the police's involvement in managing convicted terrorist offenders. These policies and procedures should distinguish between the different types of terrorist offenders and cover what the precise role and responsibility of the police force is, in relation to each type of offender. They should also include the duties of the officers in terms of the type of information they should be sharing with each agency that will be involved.
- The national policing lead for counter-terrorism should ensure that police forces develop appropriate systems, to assist with the implementation of policies and procedures, and information capture regarding the management of convicted terrorist offenders. These systems should enable the accurate capture of data in relation to the different numbers and types of terrorist offenders, to support the effective management of CT offenders at a national level and between agencies.
- The national policing lead for counter-terrorism should ensure there is a list of appropriate mobile devices that can be used by convicted terrorist offenders, depending on the conditions to which they are subject, and not allow them access to any other mobile device. Particularly, police forces should ensure that convicted terrorist offenders are not given mobile devices that have access to the internet, if they are not allowed access to the internet.

On 22 January 2021 the Assistant Commissioner for National Lead for Counter-Terrorism Policing (CTP) provided an update on the above learning. London's Terrorist Offender Management Unit ran a pilot course and this is being evaluated with feedback from National Probation Service National Security Division and CTP's Organisational Development Unit development of their future officer training programme. A Counter Terrorism Nominal Management (CTNM) core course is being developed with input from across the Counter-Terrorism Network and coordinated by the Organisational Development Unit. It will have additional bolt-on modules and Continual Professional Development events. The Detective Chief Superintendent (DCS) clarified that subject to recruitment it is anticipated to be delivered from June 2021 onwards.

CTP are establishing Project Semper as a change programme to develop their approach to management of nominals in communities with partners. A key work stream deliverable is production of a national Nominal Management Manual of Guidance. This will define an overall approach to management of CT nominals, distinguish between arrangements in different cohorts, and codify roles and responsibilities for CTP officers and staff. It will ensure CTP's approach mirrors other guidance in this space (such as Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements and National Probation Service national

standards as examples). The first version of the Manual is due to be published for consultation by end of January 2021.

CTP has appointed a DCS as Capability Lead for Nominal Management and each region has nominated a Nominal Management Lead Responsible Officer at the rank of Chief Inspector. This will ensure connectivity between national and regional CTP delivery, and develop a national 'community of practice' for CTNM. The Joint Counter Terrorism Prison and Probation Hub are now collating data nationally to produce a single nominal headcount refreshed on a regular basis. A process is in place to share with regions for data quality and assurance. This approach has been built into the business case for change to ensure regions are adequately resourced to support this activity. The appointed DCS informed us the funding decision was that all regions will get uplifted resources for Nominal Management activity.

The CTNM Manual of Guidance now contains guidance for CTP practitioners on issuance of mobile phones to offenders on licence. More specifically, the storage via CTPs online platforms of a dynamic list of suitable phones without internet connectivity is being explored. Consultation is ongoing with relevant technical experts on which devices should be added to the list and how this can be maintained.

We are considering a learning recommendation in relation to the processes for conducting a review of police contact with a Registered Terrorist Offender, if they go on to commit a relevant further offence.