



SECURITY COORDINATOR (SECO) STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE			
REFERENCE.	SOP/228/10		
PROTECTIVE MARKING	NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED		
PORTFOLIO	Protective Services		
OWNER	ACC Protective Services		
START DATE	10 August 2010		
REVIEW DATE	August 2011		
THIS POLICY REPLACES:	A New SOP		
VERSION	DATE	REASON FOR AMENDMENT	AMENDED BY
V0.1	June 2010		C/Insp Rae Jiggins
V0.2	June 2010	Preparation for consultation	T/Insp Becky Howson
V0.3	July 2010	Amended following consultation	C/Insp Rae Jiggins



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SECURITY COORDINATOR (SECO) SOP

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Security Coordinators (SECO) course is run by the Police National Search Centre. The role of the SECO is described in the SECO Manual of Guidance as:

To provide a clear focus for all aspects of operational security and security for any particular event or location, and for active planning, co-ordination and initiation of counter-measures to deliver it effectively.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The role of SECO in relation to British Transport Police (BTP) has been reviewed by the Counter Terrorism Support Unit (CTSU). This review concluded that there is limited requirement for the role of SECO within BTP operations. Most operations/events that necessitate the appointment of a SECO are those that are led by Home Office Forces who have the 'Gold' Command, such as New Years Eve or Notting Hill Carnival. The Home Office Force will appoint the SECO; only one SECO should be appointed.
- 2.2 BTP has a requirement for no more than four SECO's nationally. These SECO's will come from the CTSU and/or the three London Areas and though London based they are to be considered Force assets.
- 2.3 The requirement for and the number of SECOs required by BTP will be subject to monitoring by the Superintendent CTSU.

3 DEFINITION

- 3.1 SECO is a Security Coordinator.

4 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 A SECO is appointed by 'Gold' normally in the following circumstances:



1. The scale and complexity of the event warrants it,
and/or
 2. The threat to the event requires a complex multi agency security operation,
regardless of the scale of the event,
and/or
 3. Where protocol or national interest considerations (regardless of threat) make it
advisable to appoint a SECO.
- 4.2 The SECO will bring together the various individual tactical plans produced by a forces' specialist in a number of particular fields, such as POLSA (Police Search Advisor) for search, Firearms Tactical Adviser for the firearms issues and Public Order Tactical Adviser for all public order issues, and produce one comprehensive plan for the whole event. This plan will cover all aspects of security for the event including any multi-agency activities.

5 PROCEDURES

5.1 DEPLOYMENT OF A SECO

- 5.1.1 All requests for the use of a SECO should be directed to the Superintendent CTSU detailing the following information:
- Event details including type, date and duration.
 - The reason that a SECO is required.
 - The 'Gold' Commander for the event.
- 5.2 A SECO is appointed by Gold after discussion with Superintendent CTSU.
- 5.3 Once appointed, the SECO will undertake their duties as laid down in the SECO Manual of Guidance.



5.4 SELECTION AND TRAINING

- 5.4.1 When a vacancy for a SECO occurs, CTSU will undertake a selection process for candidates. This process will take into account the candidate's current role and previous experience. Officers who have previously undertaken the role of Police Search Coordinator or Police Search Advisor are particularly well suited to the role of SECO. Officers should also have experience in event planning and command roles.
- 5.4.2 Once qualified TAS and Command & Control will be updated by the Superintendent CTSU.
- 5.4.3 The role of SECO is ideally undertaken by officers of Superintendent or Chief Inspector rank, in extremis Inspector ranks may be considered.
- 5.4.4 Course costs for training will lie with the CTSU.

6 MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

- 6.1 This SOP will be monitored for compliance through the CTSU and overseen by the Protective Services Department.
- 6.2 All SECOs will be subject to continual assessment by the Superintendent CTSU to ensure competence and compatibility with the role is maintained.
- 6.3 Annual performance of the SECO will be reviewed by the Superintendent CTSU.