

THE BULLETIN

NABIS NEWSLETTER FOR STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS
June 2011

ISSUE 5

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INTRODUCTION FROM HEAD OF NABIS

The work that is carried out within the four NABIS Forensic Hubs located in London, Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow underpins all the work that is carried out by NABIS, and allows us to develop intelligence products that inform operational activity to tackle gun crime in a way that has never previously been available.

In order to demonstrate that the work carried out by the staff in the Hubs is of the highest standard, and that the processes that we work to are watertight, it has always been our goal to attain UKAS accreditation for all NABIS forensic work carried out within the Hubs.

I am delighted to report that in April both the Central Hub based in Birmingham and the Northern Hub in Manchester were awarded UKAS accreditation. The actual accreditation is awarded to West Midlands Police and Greater Manchester Police respectively as the host force for the hubs and has been a good example of the two forces working hand in hand with the NABIS team in ensuring that we meet the stringent standards set by UKAS.

Work is already at an advanced stage to gain accreditation for the Metropolitan Police in respect of the work carried out by the London hub, whilst the Scottish firearms laboratory is already accredited for their firearms work. It will hopefully only require some fine tuning to accredit the NABIS service they provide.

UKAS accreditation provides reassurance that the forensic services provided by the Hubs is of the highest

standard and is testament to the work of all staff in meeting these standards. There are examples within this newsletter of how NABIS is becoming more and more involved operationally by developing fast time intelligence that is reliable and actionable. The forensic work in linking crimes and showing the number of inferred weapons in circulation is proving to be a vital factor in tackling gun crime at local, regional and national levels.

Remember that the more complete the intelligence picture is the better placed we are to make the correct decisions in taking enforcement activity. The NABIS Hubs are ready and waiting to examine the ballistic material and firearms that you recover from crime scenes - please make sure that you make full use of our services so that we can all reap the benefit.

Det. Chief Supt. Paul James
Head of NABIS

NABIS IDENTIFIES FIREARM USED TO MURDER 16 YEAR OLD AGNES SINA INAKOJU

On Wednesday 14th April 2010, just after 7pm, Agnes Sina Inakoju, a 16 year old girl, was stood by a window in a takeaway in Hackney, London. Two men cycled up to the window and one of them fired a single round from a machine gun. The bullet struck Agnes in the neck and she died in the early

WELCOME TO THE STAKEHOLDER NEWSLETTER

This issue includes:

- NABIS Identifies Weapon for High Profile Murder
- NABIS Assists in Joint Operation
- Extending the Picture
- NABIS MoU Update
- NABIS Communications
- ISO Accreditation
- Evidential Microscopy
- Meet the Team

hours of the 16th April. This case was investigated by Metropolitan Police Service Specialist Crime Directorate's Trident Command.

What became clear in the early stages of the investigation was that Agnes was not the intended target. This shooting was a result of a dispute between two local gangs; the London Fields and the Fellows Court gang. Tensions had been heightened in the days leading up to the murder of Agnes. On Sunday 11th April a member of the London Fields gang was assaulted. The intelligence locally indicated that the London Fields gang member had been assaulted by a member of the Fellows Court gang. On the same night a MAC-10 machine pistol was fired in Hendon, North West London.

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NABIS IDENTIFIES FIREARM (STORY CONTINUED)

On Monday 12th April a MAC-10 was discharged seven times in a block of flats in Hackney. Nobody was injured but this was believed to be in retaliation for the assault on the London Fields gang member. Work carried out by NABIS established that the same MAC-10 was used at both the shooting in Hendon and the shooting in Fellows Court. This information gave the investigative team a positive lead in terms of suspects for the shooting coming from East London.

In relation to the gun that had been used to shoot Agnes, early checks by NABIS identified that this gun was an Agram sub machine pistol, which had been used at six other shootings across North, East and South London and that it had not been used since September 2009. On 21st April 2010, seven days after the murder of Agnes, a teenager was arrested in Hackney in possession of two guns, an Agram sub machine pistol and a converted Umarex Walther P99 / P99S self-loading pistol. The teenager was charged with possession of these weapons, but, due to his age, the Magistrate was unable to keep him in custody and he was released on bail. NABIS undertook urgent work which determined that the Agram sub machine pistol that the teenager had been arrested with was the same weapon that had been used to murder Agnes. The teenager was subsequently charged with Possession of a Firearm with intent to endanger life and he was remanded in custody to await trial.

Whilst this work was ongoing, officers from Trident Command had recovered a MAC-10 machine gun, and again through NABIS, were able to link this gun to the shootings in Hendon on 11th April and Fellows Court on 12th April. It was also then possible to establish the criminal use of this gun in other parts of London. NABIS made it possible to show clear links between these guns and other crime scenes and other gangs. It was identified that the last time the Agram was used was on 30th September 2009 by a man called Yusuf Arslan who had fired the weapon four times. He had subsequently been convicted of attempted murder.

The trial in relation to the murder of Agnes Sina Inakoju began on 7th March. On 12th April two men, Leon Dunkley and Mohammed Smoured, who were both members of the London Fields gang, were convicted of her murder. They were sentenced to life imprisonment and ordered to serve a minimum of 32 years. In addition two teenagers, one called Dwayne McIntosh Wisdom, were also convicted of firearms offences. Wisdom had been arrested with the

murder weapon and he was also convicted of assisting an offender. These two offenders are due for sentencing on 12th May.

Detective Chief Superintendent Paul James, Head of NABIS said;

"Through NABIS Knowledge and Communications and the ACPO Criminal Use of Firearms portfolio we have already asked for a new offence of possession of a firearm with intent to supply.

"Other Senior Management Team members and I feel passionately that a new offence such as this can have a marked affect on the people involved in these crimes, such as those highlighted by this case.

"NABIS is unique in the way it is able to not only understand ballistic intelligence but also affect positive change to help reduce gun crime in the UK. We are the only country in the world with such a capability, accordingly we should all be proud of what we achieve everyday."



The gun used in the murder

JOINT OPERATION RESULTS IN FIVE MEN CHARGED

A joint operation between NABIS, West Yorkshire Police and SOCA has resulted in five people being charged in connection with the illegal importation of firearms into the UK from America.

The men were arrested on 8 April as part of a joint operation between West Yorkshire Police, National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS) and Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) when warrants were carried out at addresses in Bradford, Leeds and Pontefract. The operation was also supported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in the United States of America.

Mohammed Tariq (31) of Thornton Road, Atique Arif (32) of Mannheim Road, Feroz Khan (23) of Killinghall Drive, Raees Khan (32) of Weetwood Road and Akhbar Sultan

(23) of Collinfield Rise have been charged with conspiracy to import prohibited weapons and conspiracy to possess a firearm with intent to endanger life. The men are now due to appear before Bradford Crown Court in June.

Matt Lewis, Head of Knowledge and Communications for NABIS said;

“These arrests show how UK law enforcement agencies, both nationally and internationally, can work together to stop this type of illegal activity. This operation has involved months of work by the organisations involved.

“Every element of NABIS has in some way been a part of this complex and challenging investigation. This operation has shown how NABIS can build on its Forensic Services, Intelligence and Knowledge & Communications capabilities to be a key player in tackling those who are prepared to engage in this illegal activity.”

NABIS will continue to work with its partners, which include police forces, SOCA and the ATF to take firearms off our streets and out of criminal hands.

THE ORGANISED CRIME COORDINATION CENTRE (OCCC) AND NABIS ‘EXTENDING THE PICTURE’

The OCCC is a project that started in the autumn of 2009 under the direction of the Organised Crime Partnership Board (OCPB). The concept was to create a multi-agency intelligence hub that would provide the definitive picture of Serious Organised Crime for the UK. After the arrival of the new government in May 2010, and the decision to create a National Crime Agency (NCA), the OCCC has now become a central part of that development programme.

Phase one of the OCCC is planned to be operational by April 2012, and at this point it will undertake the following activities;

- Manage and develop the picture of Serious Organised Crime that is created through the Organised Crime Group Mapping (OCGM) process that is being rolled out nationally
- Manage a refreshed system of Covert flagging for UK law enforcement
- Provide a ‘one stop shop’ for bureau services enquiries in relation to Serious Organised Crime.

The primary data set for the OCCC will be the Organised Crime Group Mapping (OCGM) tracker that is being completed by all ACPO forces, Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and UK Border Agency (UKBA). This data gives the most accurate picture of the nature and extent of Serious Organised Crime that has ever been achieved. The latest version of the system is being implemented over the next few months, and NABIS has been involved in ensuring that the right questions are on the OCGM tracker in order to enhance our understanding of the criminal use of firearms by Organised Crime Groups (OCG).

Story continued on page 4

'EXTENDING THE PICTURE' *continued*

Stage one of the work of the OCCC will be the responsibility to 'aggregate' the data that is received from each force and agency, and to add value by making links that may not have been visible to the submitting organisation. Experience in the development of the system has already shown that this work will identify entirely new OCG's, and in other cases, provide a fresh perspective on the connectivity between groups and their relative threat. This is vital if we are to extend our knowledge beyond what we already think we know.

The second stage will be for the OCCC to take its knowledge and 'wash' it across other law enforcement data sets to identify links and to fill gaps in understanding. This is where NABIS intelligence will play a vital role in building the picture on the accessibility and use of illegal firearms within OCG's.

The development of the OCCC presents a unique opportunity to make a step change in the sophistication of our understanding of the threat posed by Serious Organised Crime and, more importantly, provide us with real opportunities to intervene. This will only be achieved with the active participation of key partners such as NABIS.

Matt Lewis, Head of Knowledge and Communication said;

"We are already working on a number of areas of work that will assist in the OCCC process. The OCCC system of work will represent a significant change in how we deal with Organised Crime in the UK.

"The NABIS Senior Management Team is committed to ensuring that NABIS is at the heart of developments relating to groups involved in the criminal use of firearms."

THE NABIS MoU

The NABIS Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been posted on the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) internal website, the ACPO Intranet. As an extension to the consultation process this will ensure that all chief officers and senior police staff are aware of the obligations it places on their forces, in addition to what they can expect from NABIS.

Following the consultation, NABIS will look to address any issues and concerns chief officers may have before the MoU is sent to forces and law enforcement partners for action. The MoU will assist in ensuring that the commitment required by all parties is documented, measurable and consistent.

Matt Lewis Head of NABIS Knowledge and Communications said;

"Getting the balance right with the MOU is absolutely critical, we need to ensure the document works for all parties and strikes a balance between what is achievable and what is necessary, to ensure we have the best possible outcomes in our fight against gun crime.

"We have actively welcomed feedback and now we must evaluate, plan and respond accordingly."



NABIS COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT COMING SOON

As part of the ongoing commitment to support police forces and law enforcement agencies in England and Wales, NABIS has created the *NABIS Communications Toolkit*.

The *Toolkit* will consist of:

- Factsheets
- An article for use in internal force and law enforcement agency publications
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Posters
- Flyers
- Pre-prepared articles for force and law enforcement intranet sites.

The factsheets, posters and flyers will be available for download from the NABIS website to be printed in house. In addition a limited amount of hard copies will also be available on request from NABIS Knowledge and Communications. A similar set of materials will also be produced for the NABIS Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), these materials will also be available to download from the NABIS website.

Both the *NABIS Communications Toolkit* and the *NABIS MoU Communications Toolkit* will be available to all forces and agencies from June 2011.

If you require any more information regarding the *NABIS Communications Toolkits* or media/communications related issues please contact the NABIS Media and Communications Manager via the NABIS mailbox at ah_nabis@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

ISO 17025 ACCREDITATION FOR TWO NABIS HUBS

Further to the article in the previous edition of Bulletin, UKAS have revisited both the Northern and Central Hubs to follow up their initial assessments carried out in November last year. The assessors were happy that all the non-conformances had been rectified and both hubs were accredited to ISO 17025 for NABIS work at the beginning of April 2011.

Martin Parker, Lead NABIS Scientist;

“The significance of this achievement cannot be overstated. It is clear from evidence being currently presented to the Parliamentary Select Committee for Science and Technology, that the police service must achieve this standard if they are to carry out a forensic science service that will meet the needs of the Criminal Justice System.

“As well as being an essential requirement for NABIS, this will work as a springboard for Greater Manchester Police and West Midlands Police, who can now extend the scope of accreditation into other areas of their scientific support departments.

“Accreditation has resulted from a huge amount of work by staff at the NABIS Hubs and the host forces; those involved can rightly feel very proud of what they have achieved.”



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EVIDENTIAL MICROSCOPY

From the 4th April 2011, the NABIS Northern and Central Hubs have been offering an evidential service for comparison microscopy.

This means that any investigation where a statement is required to prove that a cartridge case or bullet is discharged from a weapon can be

provided by NABIS. Similarly, where a statement is required detailing connections between cartridge cases and bullets recovered at different crime scenes, or the identification of a number and type of weapons used in an incident, this can also be provided by NABIS.

All other evidential services will continue to be carried out by external forensic providers.

The business case for this change was approved by NABIS SMT, NABIS Scientific Steering Group, NABIS Joint Management Group and Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Crime Group and ACPO Cabinet. This new service will ensure that forces continue to receive high quality microscopy services and remove the need for work to be duplicated. There is no additional charge for the service, therefore there will also be savings for the forty-one forces using the hubs.

MEET THE TEAM

Julie - NABIS Intelligence Officer ¹

Julie is an Intelligence Officer working in the NABIS Intelligence Cell. Seconded from Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), Julie joined NABIS in 2009. Julie's previous roles include 12 years with West Midlands Police, where she worked as an Intelligence Analyst in both a regional drugs unit and on the guns and gangs team. Julie joined the National Crime Squad in 2004 where she worked as an Intelligence Officer mainly in Organised Immigration Crime before it became SOCA.

Julie's role as an Intelligence Officer forms part of the NABIS multi agency approach; the main focus is to analyse and develop the intelligence from firearms incidents to inform the national picture on the criminal use of firearms, in addition to identifying upstream intelligence to feed into 'Programme 5' National Intelligence Requirements. The Intelligence Cell works strategically to build on the current firearms knowledge by identifying transit routes and movement methods of firearms, both into and across the UK. This enables a greater understanding of the methodologies behind the sale and use of firearms, which is shared with the wider criminal use of firearms community in the forms of quarterly reports, intelligence logs and occasionally via briefings and presentations. The work also identifies tactical opportunities that are further developed by the Intelligence Cell and then passed to law enforcement agencies and police forces to be taken forward.

Julie is able to bring a national and international perspective to her role from her vast knowledge and experience of working in intelligence. NABIS benefits from access to SOCA systems and processes and likewise SOCA benefits from access to the NABIS Database and NABIS procedures. This enhances the multi-agency approach that is an important aspect in tackling the criminal use of firearms.

Julie thoroughly enjoys working in NABIS;

"It is great to be part of such a good team here in NABIS and it is good to know that the work we do is recognised both nationally and internationally. I have gained a better understanding of the intelligence processes involved in tackling the criminal use of firearms, and this coupled with my previous work experience has allowed me to bring people and intelligence together, promoting NABIS at every possible opportunity."

¹ Due to the nature of her work Julie's surname has been omitted

Got something to say about NABIS?

We want to hear from you about the service provided by NABIS.

If you have feedback on any aspect of NABIS work please send your comments to:
ah_nabis@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk