

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN)

Contents

Policy Statement.....	2
Principles	2
Selection Criteria	3
Equipment	4
Deployment.....	4
Making an Arrest	5
Decontamination.....	5
Police Officers and Police Staff.....	5
Detainees	6
Responsibilities.....	7
Additional Information	8

Policy Statement

Summary

West Yorkshire Police (WYP) complies with Authorised Professional Practice (APP) on Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) and Civil emergencies, and has established a local policy to provide clear standards and guidelines to ensure that selected West Yorkshire Police officers have the necessary skills, equipment and support to respond to a CBRN incident as safely and effectively as possible.

Due to the nature of CBRN incidents, police officers and police staff currently undertake these roles on a voluntary basis.

This policy explains the Force's position on selecting, training, equipping and deploying officers and staff for CBRN duties, as well as planning and the procedures that must be undertaken for an arrest and the decontamination process for officers, staff, casualties and detainees.

Scope

This policy applies to all police officers and police staff.

Principles

General

- To qualify for this skill, officers must attend the recognised training programme and all results recorded on Chronicle.
- Once trained, officers will be expected to perform these duties throughout their service unless they formally apply to be removed or WYP has no further requirement for them to hold the skill.
- Officers must declare any injury/unfitness to perform before deployment.
- Officers wanting to be removed from their CBRN responder commitment must apply to their district SPOC and thereafter the Force CBRN Co-ordinator.
- CBRN trained officers will be provided with the equipment required and will store, service and maintain their equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- The Force will licence and store devices containing radiation sources in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency guidelines. The Force will comply with the guidance of the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) who provide the Force's Radiation Protection Advisor (RPA) in support of locally trained Radiation Protection Supervisors (RPSs).
- Responses to CBRN or suspected CBRN incidents can be found in the Force Contingency and Operational Plans and must be referred to when dealing with such incidents.
- When deploying to an incident, officers will be deployed in the appropriate PPE and with sufficient equipment to safely fulfil the task.

- All activities concerning CBRN deployments will be risk assessed on site and recorded. This process will be supported and managed by a CBRN Commander and CBRN Tactical Advisor.
- Officers and staff coming into contact with suspected contaminants or other contaminated persons must be considered contaminated until deemed otherwise.
- Handling contaminated detainees is a high-risk area and support and advice must be sought from the CBRN Tactical Advisor or CBRN Commander.
- Detainees must be decontaminated before travelling within a police vehicle or entering a custody suite.
- Following the Initial Operational Response (IOR) to a CBRN incident, preserving life is the first consideration and, if necessary, the Fire and Rescue Service or Ambulance Trust must be asked to use emergency decontamination.

Force resource requirements

The Force:

- Is required to have a minimum strength of 175 responders which will be reviewed periodically. This will be to support regional commitments of trained responders in basic CBRN techniques as follows:
 - Strategic Commanders;
 - Tactical Commanders;
 - Operational Commanders;
 - CBRN Tactical (Tac) Advisors;
 - Enhanced responders (BA trained officers); and
 - CBRN trained inspectors, sergeants and constables.
- Maintains a number of specialist trained responders as follows:
 - CBRN trained instructors;
 - CBRN trained POLSAs;
 - CBRN trained Crime Scene Investigators;
 - CBRN trained CTU officers;
 - CBRN trained firearms instructors;
 - CBRN trained firearms officers;
 - Portacount trained officers;
 - CBRN Trained DVI officers;
 - CBRN search trained officers; and
 - CBRN Tac advisors.

Selection Criteria

Criteria for selection

To qualify for selection, officers must be:

- Free of facial hair as it interferes with the respirator seal on next generation PPE (applies to officers who are dual trained); and

- Officer safety trained in line with the Public and Personal Safety, Police Support Unit (PSU) Training and Job Related Fitness Testing policy. Police staff must remain qualified in the staff equivalent.

Disqualifying criteria

Officers will be disqualified if they:

- Have an underlying heart and/or lung condition;
- Have uncontrollable asthma;
- Are pregnant/lactating;
- Are otherwise prohibited by the Force Medical Officer; or
- Are assessed, by an accredited CBRN instructor, as being non competent.

Equipment

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

All CBRN trained WYP personnel trained as enhanced responders must be issued with Nxgen CBRN suits and associated equipment as per the current personal protective equipment issue list held by the Force CBRN Co-ordinator.

Each identified search officer must be issued with:

- One set of Nxgen PPE;
- One set of Nxgen training PPE; and
- All other officers will have access to PRPS PPE.

Other CBRN equipment

The Force will maintain the following:

- Lightweight Chemical agent monitors (LCD3.2);
- Hazmat ID;
- Radiation detection pagers;
- Radiation monitoring equipment;
- Equipment for conducting safe reconnaissance;
- Safe undressing/decontamination area;
- Decontamination equipment;
- Portacount respirator testing equipment;
- Respirator testing facility;
- Training equipment;
- PRPS Training kit; and
- PRPS live kit.

Deployment

In Force

The Force Contingency and Operational Plans contain all types of responses to CBRN incidents and must be referred to when dealing with such incidents.

Reference must be made to the:

- West Yorkshire Multi Agency Concept of Operations;
 - Police Strategic Management of CBRN Events; and
 - Police Tactical Management of CBRN Events.
-

Mutual Aid

- WYP will seek to provide mutual aid to our colleagues regionally and nationally.
 - The decision will be made by ACC Operational Support or the duty ACC.
 - Deployments must go through the appropriate channels at the Force's Planning and Logistics sections. Out of hours requests must go via the Force Incident Manager (FIM).
-

Making an Arrest

Planning

- When evidence warrants the arrest of a suspect, due regard must be given to the health and safety of officers engaged in the operation as it is possible they will be confronted with a contaminated environment, prisoner and/or evidence.
 - While arresting an offender is a major element of the investigation, the safety of the arrest team is paramount. Appropriate PPE and possibly prophylactic drugs must be considered as part of the operational planning process.
-

Decontamination

Introduction

- IOR guidance of Remove, Remove, Remove (RRR) must be followed in suspected contamination incidents:
 - Removal of affected persons from the immediate area to avoid further exposure;
 - Removal of outer clothing can eliminate up to 80% of contamination;
 - Removal of the substance with improvised decontamination using a dry or wet method.
 - Further decontamination can be achieved through washing or by applying neutralising agents.
 - Wherever possible, medical advice must be sought regarding the most appropriate method of decontamination in consultation with a CBRN Tactical Advisor.
-

Police Officers and Police Staff

Incident protection

- Officers and staff protected by PPE are trained in the safe systems of undressing to remove contaminated clothing.
 - Police will be responsible for the safe undressing of police responders who are not deemed to be casualties.
 - The Ambulance Service are responsible for decontamination of casualties assisted by the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS).
 - Officers and staff who are **not** protected by PPE must be subject to decontamination the same as a 'contaminated person'.
 - The incident must be fully recorded via appropriate police systems, Policy and CBRN logs as appropriate. Recording must include reporting to HSE as a near miss and the submission of a CBRN Return form to the National CBRN Centre (NCBRNC).
-

Health monitoring

All officers and staff, regardless of whether they were wearing PPE or not, must receive a health check, further medical interventions and longer term health monitoring as necessary, with full access to:

- Caring services;
 - Occupational Health; and
 - The Police Federation, Superintendents' Association and Trade Unions.
-

Detainees**Introduction**

- Decontaminating detainees at the scene can prove to be a dangerous and complex operation.
 - Wherever possible, CTP NE officers must be in attendance but if this is not practical, advice must be sought from CTP NE teams or the anti-terrorist branch reserve at New Scotland Yard.
-

Arresting detainee

- Arresting officers must accompany their detainees through decontamination to:
 - Ensure evidence is not lost or discarded;
 - Protect Fire and Rescue and Health Service staff from violence or threats of violence; and
 - Prevent any escape attempts.
- Clothing and property removed from a detainee must be considered as evidential property and must be retained and treated as such with appropriate consideration of contamination issues.
- If, after decontamination, an arrested person:
 - *Doesn't require further medical care*, they will be transported to the custody suite as normal and processed in accordance with current procedures.
 - *Does require further medical care*, then they will be transported to a medical facility by health transport. The senior investigating officer (SIO) must be consulted so that arrangements regarding security and

detention can be put in place. However, transportation must not be delayed to facilitate this action.

Responsibilities

Force CBRN Co-ordinator

The Force CBRN Co-ordinator is responsible for:

- Being the single point of contact (SPOC) for regional and national CBRN issues;
- Ensuring the Force fulfils any regional obligation;
- Maintaining links with partner agencies;
- Liaising with the Force Health and Safety Officer to ensure adequate support is provided to officers and staff required;
- Ensuring hazardous materials are stored in accordance with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) and assessed accordingly; and
- Maintaining appropriate records.

Fire and Rescue Service and Ambulance Trust

The Fire and Rescue Service and Ambulance Trust are responsible for:

- Supporting the decontamination process if necessary;
- Providing emergency decontamination, using improvised equipment, where time does not allow for the deployment of specialist NHS resources;
- Providing disrobe and re-robe packs to affected persons if necessary;
- Informing the NHS as soon as possible regarding emergency decontamination to ensure clinical decontamination is prioritised by specialist NHS staff; and
- Providing decontamination, triage and movement for further medical care to contaminated casualties (Ambulance Trust).

For contaminated casualties, individuals must refer to the APP Civil emergencies.

Other parties

The local authority is responsible for:

- Providing support and assistance to decontaminated persons who will be potential witnesses or suspects. This must be considered in consultation with the SIO.

Agencies are responsible for:

- Ensuring the staff they have deployed equipped with specialised PPE are adhering to the safe undressing procedure or decontamination of those members, which can be found in the Force Contingency and Operational Plans.

Additional Information

Compliance

This policy complies with the following legislation and policy:

- Data Protection Act 2018
 - APP CBRN
 - APP Civil emergencies
 - Public and Personal Safety, Police Support Unit (PSU) Training and Job Related Fitness Testing policy
-