

Officers should not exit their vehicle until safe to do so. This may include the driver giving a verbal confirmation that the manoeuvre is complete.

Until the subject vehicle is confirmed as immobilised officers should avoid passing between the front and rear of the subject's vehicle and the police vehicles. This will assist in managing the safety of officers in the event of the vehicles moving.

Vehicle Tactical Options

Once the vehicle is stationary the subjects may be dealt with by either an armed enquiry, containment and callout, extraction or a critical shot.

Armed Enquiry

Where an armed enquiry is to be conducted it remains largely the same as described in module D3. In a MASTS deployment it may be conducted by one stopping vehicle to the rear. Other MASTS vehicles can remain covert whilst in a position to provide support as required.

Alternatively uniformed armed assets may be employed to maintain the covert integrity of the MASTS resources.

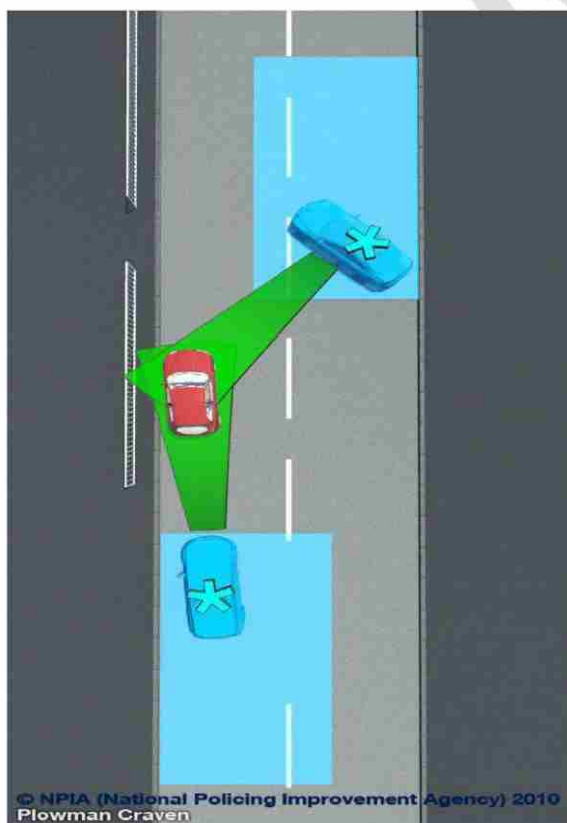


Figure 9

Contain and Callout

Where a containment and callout is employed, it remains largely as described in Module D3 (see figure 9). However, it is imperative that armed officers are clearly identified as such through the use of ski caps, blue lights etc (see identification and transition from covert to overt).

It should be remembered that covert vehicles lack high visibility police markings and roof mounted warning lights. Therefore officers may be more vulnerable to the hazards associated with operating in a live carriageway. This risk may be managed through positioning of the police vehicles to block the carriageway and maximising the visibility of the covert blue lights and flashing headlights. Where available the use of a magnetic roof mounted warning light may assist.

Extraction

An **"Extraction"** is a tactical option whereby the subject(s) are removed from the vehicle by officers(s) who move forward and physically take hold of them. The purpose of an extraction is to minimise risk to both the subject and the officers, preserve evidence, and rapidly gain control thereby neutralising any threat.

Where an extraction is to be conducted it remains largely the same as described in module D3. However, given the resources of a MASTS team it may be possible to deal with several subjects in a vehicle simultaneously.

Due to the complex nature of such deployments and the numerous potential scenarios, it is not possible to provide definitive guidance as to which officer from which MASTS vehicle deals with a particular subject. However, there are a number of general principals which apply:

- Officers should prioritise the driver and/or any other subject who presents the greatest threat.
- Officers from the centre vehicle deal with the subjects on the side on which this police vehicle is positioned.
- Officers from the rear vehicle deal with the subjects on the opposite side to the centre vehicle.

Whilst these general principals will normally apply it is acknowledged that on occasions environmental or operational considerations may require a different approach.

The success of these tactics requires coordination, surprise and assertive control. When conducting an extraction there are two general responsibilities in relation to each subject, **"cover"** and **"approach"**. This could include a **"cover officer"** and an **"approach officer"** however there may be environmental or other constraints which limit the number of officers deployed. In such circumstances a prioritisation of roles will be required and an officer may perform a dual role of cover and approach.

The cover role is responsible for providing firearms cover where appropriate and maintaining oversight and perspective. The approach role is responsible for the extraction and detention of the subject.

Officers approaching the subject's vehicle should visually and verbally identify themselves as armed officers. (See content 3: Transition from Covert to Overt)

Having approached the door, it should be opened by an officer and if the seat is occupied the subject should then be physically extracted from the vehicle in a proportionate manner and detained. This should be accompanied by appropriate verbal commands. If the occupant is wearing a seatbelt then it should be dealt with in a proportionate and safe manner by either asking them to remove it, an officer releasing it or if appropriate cutting it with a suitable device. It may be necessary to use proportionate force to restrain the subject whilst the seatbelt is