

Finding: I find all assessments accurate and the criteria and authorities are justified and well documented.

All officers at the point of briefing for the operation are made aware of the background of the OCG and that they are on authority to perform armed tactics. Hence, everyone has a mind-set that the operation is 'Firearms Enabled' i.e. they are likely to face armed subjects. It is inconceivable that any officer subject to the advance briefing (10/12/15), the OFC briefing or the TFC briefing (11/12/15) would not be absolutely clear that this was an armed operation because of the threat from the subjects.

Finding: The circulation of 'Firearms Enabled' at 07.30hrs does not bring any new information to the officers. They were already aware they were on authority to face potentially armed offenders and this brings no further detail of weaponry, location or accessibility. This acts as a reminder of what was already known. It is a legitimate and accurate circulation.

Recommendation: All firearms capability updates should be endorsed and coordinated by the TFC for clarity

Decision Making 06.30am to 09.00am

Both TFCs document that NDM reviews were completed. FE16 has a written landscape log, which reflects the timely transmission of updates from FE12 FE13 and FE19, and the overall position of all elements of the operation.

I find nothing in the entire audio recordings from the Audi that would change the 'reason to suppose'. Indeed, with the luxury of time to study and review, I find it further confirms the 'reason to suppose', and that the offence is likely 'Firearms Enabled'.

Both TFCs FE16 and FE1 maintain the tactical plan as authorised, and as the final planning and intent is relayed from the probe in the Audi, along with the fact that the Prison van is now enroute; FE16 moves the operation to State Amber. This authorises the OFC to progress the armed intervention on the static Audi.

The MASTs platform allows both for static vehicle interception or moving vehicle, and allows for containment or extraction at the point of contact. Extraction brings benefit of immediately overwhelming the occupants of a vehicle, removes any ability to try to escape in the car, leading to pursuit, and removes any decision making by the subjects to fight or flee. In short, they are overwhelmed and detained.