

**National Domestic Extremism
& Disorder Intelligence Unit**

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Baroness Jenny Jones
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

21st March 2014

DCS Christopher Greany
National Coordinator - Domestic Extremism
C/o Room 1707
New Scotland Yard
10 The Broadway
London
SW1H 0BG

Dear Baroness Jones,

In relation to your letter dated 20th March 2014, the Commissioner has asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

As stated in his earlier correspondence, the agreement to change the definition of Domestic Extremism was made at the end of October 2013, by the then Head of National Counter Terrorism Functions. During November 2013 the NDEDIU began to introduce this as a working definition whilst it went through the process of amending internal processes, updating the national police network and working with ACPO particularly around updating the definition on the ACPO website, which is not owned or administrated by the MPS. I wanted to be certain that before we officially moved to the new definition and to avoid confusion, that the old definition had been removed from all areas of the ACPO website.

There are also other non police owned websites that still have out of date definitions, however I am not in a position to change these. The ACPO website will be updated with the new definition in due course.

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The process was not completed until late January 2014 and at the same time I understand you were in correspondence with the Mayor, and you had also submitted a question for the forthcoming March 2014 Assembly Plenary, which the Commissioner responded to. You were in essence informed as was MOPAC when the changes were completed, this happened to coincide close to the time of the Assembly Plenary.

As stated in the previous letter, the new definition applies to those who plan or commit acts of serious criminality, and low levels of civil disobedience would not usually apply, it could apply like any other form of action if it caused serious criminality.

Aggravated trespass comes under Section 68 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. As with the previous example it would not meet the threshold for the definition unless there was serious criminality.

In respect of your final point, covert surveillance and targeting falls under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2001 (RIPA 2001) there are statutory arrangements around levels of authorisation under these powers with independent oversight by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners (OSC)

By way of a close, I would like to reassure you, that since taking over the unit in 2012, I have worked tirelessly to ensure that my staff work to exemplary standards, underpinned by the values of the MPS. My unit has been subject to extensive scrutiny and inspection by independent bodies including HMIC and the Home Office. As a Londoner, I am absolutely committed to running a unit, whose goal is to prevent criminality and keep people safe from harm.

If you have the time, I would be very happy to meet with you so I could discuss more about the work of the unit and how much it has changed since 2012.

Yours Sincerely,

