

# POLICE SERVICE PARLIAMENTARY SCHEME



2014



## The Rt Hon Baroness D'Souza CMG – The Lord Speaker

As President of the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme, I am delighted to introduce this latest edition of the Scheme's brochure.

Providing Members of Parliament with first hand experience of life in the police service is an important means of keeping parliamentarians informed of developments in policing, and the experiences recounted here by participants in the Scheme are a testament to this.

Reading the brochure, I am perhaps most impressed by the breadth of experience offered to parliamentarians by the Scheme, in almost every field of police work. It is the accumulation of such broad and varied experience that ensures our Parliament is able to function effectively. Initiatives that enable Members of Parliament to scrutinise matters of public policy from an informed perspective can only enhance Parliament's ability to perform its role of holding the Government to account.

I hope the contents of this brochure encourage many more Members of both Houses to participate.



“I am perhaps most impressed by the breadth of experience offered to parliamentarians by the Scheme”





## The Rt Hon Damian Green MP Minister for Policing & Criminal Justice

I am delighted to support the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme. Keeping people safe is the most fundamental task of Government, so it is vital that parliamentarians have the opportunity to gain an insight into the important work of the police. I know from my own experience as Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice that there is no substitute for seeing in person the impressive things police officers do every day.

The Scheme is happening at an exciting time for policing. The first directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners are in post, holding the police to account. The College of Policing is setting professional standards. A more robustly independent HMIC is holding the police to account nationally. In October 2013 we saw the launch of the National Crime Agency to ensure that national threats are dealt with effectively. I am very grateful to the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme for providing a window into the work of the police at this significant time in their history.



“it is vital that parliamentarians have the opportunity to gain an insight into the important work of the police”



## Sir Neil Thorne OBE TD DL

### Chairman & Founder of the Scheme

The Police Service Parliamentary Scheme has now been running for 16 years and during that period 80 Members of Parliament, Peers and Members of the European Parliament have taken part throughout police services in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. All of our participants have also had the opportunity to visit Holland to see how the Dutch approach policing so that they can make a comparison.

Those Members of Parliament who agree to participate have a 20 day programme which enables them to study the role of police men and women at Inspector rank and below. This being the most senior officer who deals with police constables on the beat on a day to day basis. The programme is made up of both core elements and of optional components to reflect the particular interests of an individual Member of Parliament. Core elements include a period of not less than six days attached to a specific station, where, so far as possible, the Member can be absorbed into the fabric and learn most about what police service life on the beat is really like.

“there is no substitute for personal experience”

Those who have done the basic course are then able to return for a post-graduate course of 20 days split up into modules of not less than five days in a year, either with the same or some other police service. This is an excellent opportunity to explore any other aspect of police work they wish.



Some Members of Parliament who have participated relate their experiences in the following pages and I do hope that their words will encourage others to follow.

I am most grateful to all our sponsors – who are listed at the back of this brochure – for their steadfast financial support; to those Members of Parliament who are prepared to give up their valuable time in order to study the police service at close quarters, as there is no substitute for personal experience and also to the police men and women at all levels who have been most helpful.

None of this would of course have been possible without the enthusiastic support of both Ministers and Shadow Ministers who have been most encouraging throughout.



## The Rt Hon David Hanson MP Shadow Minister – Home Affairs

I want to recognise and support the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme, and to give my best wishes for its continued success.

The Scheme is a practical and effective way of providing a unique opportunity for Peers, Members of Parliament and Members of the European Parliament to obtain an insight into how policing on the front-line operates. By working alongside police officers themselves, participants gain direct experience and a better understanding of the successes, achievements, challenges and demands faced by the police on a daily basis.

Through this Scheme, they are able to see at first hand the many and varied roles of a police officer – be it beat patrol, traffic, control room or the paperwork.

I have received so much positive feedback about the Scheme, from participants and participating forces – demonstrating how the Scheme has enriched their understanding and how this has grown from their own experiences.

I know it will go from strength to strength and it is a wonderful chance to enjoy the role.



“By working alongside police officers themselves, participants gain direct experience”





## Sir Hugh Orde OBE QPM – President the Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

I am delighted to give my unequivocal support to the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme. I can't think of any time since it was launched in 1997 when it has been more important for Peers, Members of Parliament and Members of the European Parliament to gain insight into front line policing and the accompanying operational decision making.

Policing is currently undergoing significant change, however one constant that remains unaltered is the need to deliver to the public a service that strives to reduce and prevent crime. The Scheme provides an opportunity for Members to connect with real street policing and gain first hand experience and understanding of the issues and interdependencies within modern policing, from tackling anti-social behaviour and implementing crime reduction initiatives to focussed criminal investigations. Officers and staff are committed to delivering a 24 hour service to victims and communities – the opportunity to observe the challenges and demands that go hand in hand with this will, I believe, enrich the understanding of the Members undertaking the programme. I wish those who do so, every success.



“The Scheme provides an opportunity for Members to connect with real street policing”

## Sir Bernard-Hogan Howe QPM Commissioner of The Metropolitan Police Service



I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to write a foreword for the 2014 edition of the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme brochure.

The police service needs both ambassadors and critics. In either case they need to be well informed. We also need to be accountable. This Scheme allows Members of Parliament to do both at the same time.

However, many an MP taking part will enjoy doing it and see the high qualities of both officers and staff demonstrated on a daily basis. Through this Scheme parliamentarians will also experience the many challenges we face in serving and protecting the public.



## Baroness Coussins – with the Metropolitan Police Service

Being attached to the Metropolitan Police was a thoroughly eye-opening experience. My placement certainly provided me with insights into the workings of the Met and the character of the officers, but I'm glad to say the insights went both ways too. The officers I came into contact with learned a lot (dispelling many myths) about the House of Lords, not least the existence of the crossbenchers! However I am in no doubt, that I was by far the main beneficiary from the Scheme and am happy to recommend it to all fellow parliamentarians.



“Being attached to the Metropolitan Police was a thoroughly eye-opening experience”

As a working mother for most of my adult life, I thought I was a dab-hand at multi-tasking. But seeing the way young police constables work on shifts made me wonder whether I had had it easy. They are a constant and changing mix of generalist, specialist, tutor, ambassador, colleague and figurehead. I marvelled at the way they could drive at 90 mph with blue lights flashing, reading the road in split seconds, briefing me (and often a younger student officer) at the same time, on procedure, priorities and the law, often backed up with good, relevant data, and arrive to speak to distressed members of



the public in a calm and professional way. I was struck by how well they were able to judge character the minute they engaged with a situation – applying a combination of experience, training and intuition. Where I would have jumped to conclusions about guilt, innocence, truth and lies, they demonstrated listening and analytical skills which led to fair and open-minded dealings with the public, whether suspect or victim.

In over 56 hours worth of shifts 'on borough,' out with the rapid response teams and seeing cases ranging from public disorder, domestic disputes, traffic accidents, stop and search, shoplifting, gun, knife and drug crimes, I can honestly say that I only witnessed one incident of questionable behaviour on the part of an officer. On the contrary, I was often struck by the lengths an officer would go to, beyond the requirements of procedure, to ensure that people were being dealt with sympathetically.







For example, a woman arrested in Tesco for stealing over £350 worth of items had her young son with her. Before taking her to the police station, the officers personally took the child to a safe place (his father's house), so that he wouldn't have the distress of witnessing his mum in custody or of being placed with a social worker during this procedure.



My placement was extremely varied. Indeed, one of the lessons I learned was how diverse a career it is possible to have in the Met, with many different specialisms available and top quality training to go with them. Apart from the routine shifts – earlies, lates and nights – I also spent time visiting and observing some of the Met's high profile functions, such as Olympic security and the public order training at Gravesend, where I watched young officers learning how to deal with having petrol bombs hurled at them in the dark.

Other attachments were to much more behind-the-scenes parts of the Met, or functions that many people are not aware of or don't notice, including the "Kidnap Suite", firearms, the Forensic Science Service, the child abuse teams, the economic crime section and the marine police. Sessions with the Trident team and the counter-terrorism unit also provided good insights into some highly sophisticated strategic thinking and analysis that achieves real results.

If I could make one recommendation for improvement on the basis of what I saw, it would be that the police should have better initial and in-service training in relation to mental health issues. The proportion of arrests where this is a factor is enormous and the demarcation lines between police and social services did not always appear to be clear.



## Viscount Simon – with Essex Police

For some decades I have been involved with road safety and with road policing at the 'sharp end' where I have completed a number of courses. However, despite coming into contact with some other areas of policing I decided that the only way of getting a better understanding of other sections, was to join the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme. In retrospect I'm very pleased that I made this decision.

After having an initial meeting with some of the senior officers I was thrown in at the deep end observing what officers do on a daily basis covering most, if not all, areas of 'the job.'

It was a slightly unusual day that I spent with the serious crime team where they were following up investigations but, in general, were fairly quiet. I found it somewhat amusing that when they visited somebody who repaired mobile phones, despite there being many thousands in separate piles, the officers were castigated if they put a phone back on the wrong pile! We discussed all kinds of matters in which they are involved. The force information room presented an insight into how incoming information was handled and recorded.

The visit to the Serious Crime Directorate was fascinating where I sat in on a large meeting involved in investigating a murder. Various aspects were discussed and I was then taken to the scene of the murder. Going out with a neighbourhood policing unit for a couple of days, including a period with a Police Community Support Officer who was involved with young children – teaching them respect and obedience by various ways and means – was a complete contrast.

“I was thrown in at the deep end observing what officers do”

On another occasion I went out with a response team who respond to anything from a domestic problem, to somebody who is helplessly drunk, to somebody who is using a mobile phone whilst driving. I observed a suspect having their fingerprints taken, which was a good introduction to the serious crime laboratory where not only are fingerprints examined but some very specialised scientific investigations take place.

A media and public relations department releases information to the press as well as to their own officers. Work for television depends completely upon the amount of time they have available and the importance of letting the public know for their own safety in each case.

I particularly enjoyed sitting in the back of a car when two officers were being instructed in advanced driving techniques prior to having their final test the following day. This was followed by a week with a road policing unit where, in addition to basic operations I was shown the way in which serious crashes are investigated.

I spent some time with a firearms unit, working through the procedures which are well known to many television viewers and was then invited to fire their main operational weapon on the firing range. A day at Stansted airport showed me the various aspects of policing encountered on an airport – some of which were out of the ordinary to say





the least! I went out with the marine support unit where we went up the coast, saw a large number of wind turbines and viewed the paperwork of seamen working on a wood carrier.



I cannot stress how informative the time I spent with Essex Police was to me and I would highly recommend the Scheme to any MP or Peer who is interested in finding out how the police really work.



My final day was spent with the air support unit where some clandestine investigations were taken from afar with the aid of very long range cameras, before being called to an aircraft which had collided with some power cables and crashed. The pilot was dead and the main road over which the cables had fallen had to be closed for a full day.



“I would highly recommend the Scheme to any MP or Peer”





## Stuart Andrew MP – with West Yorkshire Police

When I was elected to Parliament in 2010 I quickly learned how closely MPs work with their local policing teams. A fair proportion of casework which comes into my office requires assistance from the police, be it due to disputes between neighbours or damaged property and I therefore came into contact with the excellent local police officers very soon after the election.



Representing an area on the outskirts of the city of Leeds I am aware that crime is a big concern for my constituents and living so close to a metropolitan area does mean that policing needs are very different to those in rural parts of the country. I had a fair understanding of the concerns of local police officers due to my constituency postbag but very limited knowledge of actual day to day police work. I therefore jumped at the chance to spend some time on the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme over the course of a year and to better understand the work of the West Yorkshire Police.

I must admit I was quite apprehensive when I went for my first shift on my placement; the stab vest fitting which preceded it had made me more than a little nervous! However I quickly realised that my concerns were misplaced and I was in safe hands with the neighbourhood teams I was shadowing. Similarly, the experience of travelling at high speed in a response car somewhat filled me with dread, perhaps as a consequence of watching too many action movies and I was relieved to discover that I could not have been with a safer driver than the police officer I was partnered with.

Inspector Richard Cawkwell from the neighbourhood team at Pudsey devised a varied programme for me and each shift focused on a different aspect of policing. By the time I finished the Scheme I had seen first hand an overview of the whole process of the day to day work of my local police force, from phone calls coming in to report crimes to taking suspects into custody.

Accompanying the officers as they walked their beat was a particularly fascinating experience, allowing me to see an area I thought I knew from a very different perspective and I can fully appreciate the positive effect that seeing our police officers on the street has on residents. I heard so much positive feedback from constituents and genuinely humbling stories of their own experiences as victims of crime.

“It was therefore an eye opening experience to accompany the neighbourhood team to arrest a suspect”

As an MP it is necessary for me to occasionally visit a constituent's home to meet with them or to look at an issue which is affecting their property. It was therefore an eye opening experience to accompany the neighbourhood team to arrest a suspect. By this point in my Police Service Parliamentary Scheme experience I must have really picked up the mannerisms of my mentors as the gentleman in question was convinced I was from CID.

I cannot recommend the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme strongly enough, it really was such a valuable opportunity and is certainly one of the most interesting, exciting and worthwhile experiences I have had as an MP.



## Lord Rogan – with the Police Service of Northern Ireland

Although I have had considerable experience with the Armed Services, my first hand experience with the police had been limited – a state of affairs which has been well and truly rectified by participating in the excellent Police Service Parliamentary Scheme.

As a Northern Ireland peer, security and policing matters have been of more importance and interest than I would have wished, even in the post-Troubles era which has facilitated a new, more community focussed approach to policing.

Thanks to the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme I was granted truly amazing access to the full gamut of operations undertaken by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

Although the security situation in Northern Ireland is much improved – and levels of ordinary criminality have been consistently below the national average – the policing challenge faced by the PSNI remains daunting. Dissident terrorism and the scope for major, Province-wide public disorder incidents over issues such as contentious parades and protests present the service with complicated choices – particularly given the reduced manpower now available and the absence of day to day military support.

That said, the professionalism and self-sacrifice of officers – at all levels of the PSNI – which I witnessed was a reassuring reaffirmation of the high standard of public service which exists in this country.

As part of the Scheme I was provided with access throughout the PSNI – including a full morning briefing from the Chief Constable and his Command Staff outlining the strategic decisions which confront them. I was also given the privilege of joining a Gold Command team tasked with managing a potentially difficult parade in North Belfast – an insight which I found particularly informative.

With that high-level context I was able to appreciate all the more the front-line experience provided by the Scheme. This included an eye-opening riot control training session at a dedicated and highly realistic facility at Ballykinler, Co.Down.

While that was the sharp end of policing, at the other end of the spectrum I also spent a fascinating morning at the PSNI's CCTV control room in Belfast. The scale and quality of the equipment now available to the police was the stuff of science fiction when I was growing up, but it is clearly giving the police the edge over street crime in urban areas. I also spent a thoroughly enjoyable session with the PSNI's driving instructors who put me through my paces on the

skid pads. Suffice it to say that my driving abilities have confirmed that traffic branch is not for me!



“I was granted truly amazing access to the full gamut of operations”

In addition, I also had the great pleasure of spending a week with the Netherlands' National Police Agency, focussing on their activities and in particular against drug and human trafficking. This was a powerful insight which left me with much to think about.

Above all though, the experiences which will stay with me the longest are the three successive weekends I spent on patrol – across a variety of shift patterns – attached to officers throughout Belfast. These are the men and women who are the public face of the PSNI – they are the rank and file who make policing happen. In those short attachments we apprehended a car thief with a stolen vehicle and I saw the frankly appalling scenes which accompany the aftermath of night-time revelry in our city centres.

I am deeply grateful to the PSNI and the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme for providing this opportunity. I could not possibly commend it highly enough to other parliamentarians.





## Madeleine Moon MP – with South Wales Police

Spending days inside South Wales Police (SWP) observing the wide variety of work they do in our name as part of the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme was a great eye opener. I saw the dedication given to dealing with tough jobs and heard the confusion and anger caused by the lack of understanding of the jobs they do. My constituency, Bridgend, is home to the HQ of South Wales Police.



“Being on the beat in Cardiff in the early hours of the morning policing ‘the night time economy’ was a revelation”

Most of the time we feel no need to fully understand policing. As we go about our daily lives we have the comfort of seeing ‘the bobby on the beat,’ wonder at where and what cars are racing off to with siren blaring and the paranoia of a police car gliding up behind you and checking your speed.

Look over your life and try and count how many times you have come up against the police and the law. For most of us interaction will have hopefully been limited to car crime, an accident, a theft from or of a vehicle, speeding, parking, faulty tyres and lights. If we have been less fortunate, our confidence and sense of security may have been violated by the experience of a tragic death, violence or theft.



Few of us will have been touched by serious and organised crime, terrorism, extremism, people trafficking or rape.

Being on the beat in Cardiff in the early hours of the morning, policing ‘the night time economy’ was a revelation. Watching a female police officer deal with and defuse potentially difficult situations was inspiring. A firm word, a non aggressive tone and a smile made all the difference, even when explaining that if her instructions were not followed, she would, reluctantly, have to arrest a very angry and drunken individual. The experience of those hours served to underline what challenging jobs police officers do on our behalf. To be faced with this every night is not a prospect I would savour, but getting out and about with police officers is far more valuable than reading written briefings.

The most recent crime figures for Bridgend have demonstrated how well South Wales Police are performing. In the first half of 2011, there was a 5% fall in crime in Bridgend with substantial reductions in burglary – down 19% and theft from vehicles – down 20%. The Bridgend





force also excels in the way it deals with the victims of crime, recording the highest rate of satisfaction in the South Wales Police area.



I was impressed by some of the innovative ideas I saw. Relationships between the police and students have never been easy. South Wales Police have set up a special scheme to recruit students to work alongside police officers in order to keep students safe. The time commitment is flexible but training is given and the students spread messages of how to keep themselves and their belongings safe. There is also a strong message about community responsibility, keeping noise down at night, recycling and being good neighbours.

“getting out and about  
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Attending a major rugby match in Cardiff the same weekend as the riots took place across England was also an eye-opener. The relaxed and friendly relationships between police and spectators was good to see and mirrored the engagement between the police and the public which I had seen on many of my visits to police schemes across South Wales.

Gaining insight into schemes to engage with young people on the verge of anti social behaviour such as the ‘night in the cells’ run out of Fairwater police station was valuable. The scheme run in conjunction with Cardiff Youth Service is proving very successful at reducing youth annoyance and building relationships.

I would have welcomed more time to explore the work of the Financial Crimes Unit. This small team of dedicated officers spends months following leads, following the money and seeing how careless and trusting business and individuals are with large sums of money.

The Police Service Parliamentary Scheme has been invaluable in increasing my understanding of how our police work and I would recommend any MP to sign up.





## Ministry of Defence Police

As one of the new elements of the post-graduate course, I decided to accompany three participants, Lord Rosser, Michael Connarty MP and Philip Hollobone MP to MDP's site at Wethersfield in Essex to find out for myself the sort of subjects on offer in order to be able to encourage more MPs to take part. What could be more pleasant than a run into the countryside on a glorious June day in 2012?



“With plenty of time for questions and debate with officers who were all willing to engage and impart knowledge, this really is a must”

I arrived in very windy conditions which deteriorated into driving rain and remained so for the 2-day visit. However, this did not deter us from engaging in a very interesting programme covering fire arms training, the make-up of MDP and the work they are involved in. There were plenty of demonstrations and exhibits covering many aspects, some expected but some not. There was a clear connection between the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme and the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme which helped to fill in the dotted lines between them, particularly for those who have participated in both Schemes. With plenty of time for questions and debate



with officers who were all willing to engage and impart knowledge, this really is a must.



I would certainly encourage any post-graduate of the PSPS to participate in this extremely interesting and helpful course.

*Elizabeth Hunt, Police Service Parliamentary Scheme Administrator.*



## Jim McGovern MP – post graduate with Tayside Police

Since 2006 I have been involved in the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme, the first part of which I completed and graduated in 2007, and now I am proud to have completed the post-graduate course this year in April. The programme covered everything from the firearms section, drugs squad and economic fraud to policing events, monitoring night shift and community safety policing. The Scheme has significantly added to my experience of policing in Dundee, Tayside, Scotland and the wider UK.



“The programme covered everything from the firearms section, drugs squad and economic fraud”

I have to say one of the highlights within the Scheme was meeting ‘Nipper’ a 15 month old German Shepherd dog who could certainly pack a bite. I was amazed at the high level of training he had received in being able to find my car keys in a field of long grass simply from the scent that my hand had left. As I put on a padded protective sleeve Nipper was let off his leash and running straight towards me bit deep into my arm so much so I could still feel his grip through the sleeve, I certainly would not like to be the person facing Nipper without the padding.

At the other end of the Scheme came training in a more detailed and sophisticated form of crime in “boiler room fraud,” “carbon credit fraud” and other commodity investment scams. These scams generally involve phone



calls to vulnerable elderly people whose life savings disappear into non-existent or dubious investment scams. Going into those sessions with little background knowledge they proved highly informative both in the sophistication of the crimes themselves and the methods used in order to overcome and outsmart those involved.

I was also privileged to be able to attend a visit to an EU capital city in Holland as part of the Scheme. The visit allowed me to see first hand the work carried out by Europol and understand the difference they make in the streets of Dundee in stopping the flow of drugs. It was also insightful to see the work of the Dutch police in their own dog and horse training and the critically important relationship that exists between policing and Parliament.

The wide range of the Scheme allowed me to see directly the control room operations by the Serious and Organised Crime Agency in dealing with international crimes and in particular human trafficking. The Scheme also allowed me to enjoy the sound of Simply Red and Elbow while monitoring the crowds at T in the Park as I shadowed the police crowd control operation.

Through my work also with the Armed Response Unit I saw in my own constituency how ordinary household objects were being made into deadly weapons which were often the size of a common lighter. I also got to try my hand in the target practice range scoring 9/10 with both the pistol and the rifle a score which many officers admired.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the officers involved for their kind hospitality and for accommodating me on their operations.





## Letters

“I enjoyed the visit to SOCA last year, appreciated the time and effort SOCA put into it and believe that the day was well tailored to meet the needs of the Police Service Parliamentary Scheme.”

*Philip Hollobone MP 18th January 2012*

Regarding Reception 30th of October 2012

“Yet again another successful evening. Really well done on keeping the scheme going. It is a great asset for both Parliament and the police.”

*Sir Ian Johnston CBE QPM DL  
Director of Security & Resilience  
Olympic Games  
31st October 2012*

“... it was particularly helpful at the beginning of the day to have a presentation and discussion on the structure, role and remit of SOCA and its working relationship with the different Police Services, outside organisations and the Government including where the dividing lines are in terms of responsibilities ...”

*Lord Rosser 30th January 2012*

Regarding Graduation Dinner  
23rd April 2013

“It was a pleasure to be there with you and a valuable opportunity for me to be able to speak with others present in particular about the future of the National Crime Agency ...”

*Keith Bristow QPM  
Director General National Crime Agency  
26th April 2013*

“Can I take this opportunity on behalf of the Chief Constable to thank you for including an attachment to the Ministry of Defence Police in your programme ...”

*Chief Inspector Colin R Fiske  
Staff Officer to Chief Constable  
21st March 2012*







## City of London Police – Fraud

In April 2013 the City of London Police hosted its first Police Service Parliamentary Scheme attachments, providing a two-day input for three delegates including veteran Scheme member, Jim McGovern MP. Jim was completing the final stage of his post-graduate programme and we were delighted to have helped him achieve full accreditation.

Our three participants spent two days with the force's Economic Crime Directorate, finding out how we deliver fraud investigation, intelligence and prevention services in



support of UK policing. Time was spent with a range of operational teams including the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, Asset Recovery specialists and one of our many industry funded units – the Insurance Fraud Enforcement Department. Participants also undertook a session with the force's Fraud Training Academy where they learnt about the increasing involvement of organised criminality in fraud and its strategic impact on the UK economy. The feedback we received from delegates was incredibly positive and soon after this first event, I had the pleasure of attending the annual PSPS dinner at the House of Commons. Here I was struck by the passion, enthusiasm and commitment of Scheme members both past and present – and the value the programme delivers in helping to inform parliamentary decision making.

More recently, in July, we ran our second event hosting Lord Rosser – Opposition Spokesperson for the Home Office, Defence and Transport, Rosie Cooper, MP for West Lancashire and Jim Fitzpatrick, MP for Poplar and Limehouse and Shadow Minister for Transport. Again, our delegates were complimentary about the various inputs and expressed a desire to raise the issue of fraud crime during their parliamentary business.

From the perspective of the City of London Police, supporting the Scheme has given us a valuable insight into the work of parliamentarians – and the challenges they face in supporting their local constituents on issues of crime and security. We look forward to hosting many more events in the future and helping to promote this most worthwhile of parliamentary schemes.

*Detective Chief Superintendent Oliver Shaw -  
City of London Police Economic Crime Directorate*

## City of London Police – by Jim Fitzpatrick MP

I recently spent two days with two colleagues at the Economic Crime Directorate Headquarters off Bishopsgate near Liverpool Street Station, which is hosted by the City of London Police.

The officer in charge, Commander Head and his team provided a fascinating glimpse of the depth of cybercrime and fraud now being experienced. Whereas most crime statistics are reducing, economic crimes are increasing dramatically. Villains now find it much easier to sit behind a computer screen or on the end of a telephone line than suffering the hassle of planning a bank robbery. Both the legal and the political authorities appear to look more benignly on this type of crime

which avoids physical violence and therefore seems to attract less time in prison for those caught.

Credit card fraud whether using ATMs to clone cards and pin numbers, simple theft, pension liberation fraud and Ponzi investment fraud schemes are costing billions every year. Those who lose their pension or savings are clearly victims, even if they haven't actually been mugged in the street. They suffer mental torture as well as loss of property in their old age, which causes very real trauma all the same.

This was an excellent visit which not only taught us what is going on, but also provided us with lots of good advice on how we can protect ourselves against some very clever criminals indeed.





## Holland

Over many years we have built up a very special relationship with the police in Holland and regularly take a group of post-graduate MPs over there to see and compare the way they conduct their policing to the methods that are used in this country.



While there we see how their police structure operates, their method of ranking and how this relates to their years of service. Visits have included areas of particular interest, for example going out on patrol with them and seeing how they deal with drug dens and drug smuggling, the legal sale of soft drugs in licensed coffee shops and the handling of ships carrying all types of major cargo.



The attached photographs include Rotterdam harbour, a vintage police boat, a visit to Europol, a meeting with Dutch MPs in their parliament building, and a regular dinner with the British Ambassador in The Hague who takes the opportunity to invite police ministers and police chiefs to attend.

*Elizabeth Hunt, Police Service Parliamentary Scheme Administrator.*



## Graduates – 1997-2012

1997	Roger Gale (C) John McWilliam (L)	Metropolitan Police Metropolitan Police	2003	Martyn Jones (L) Tom Levitt (L) Tony McWalter (L) Rt Hon Sir George Young (C)	North Wales Police Derbyshire Constabulary Metropolitan Police Hampshire Constabulary
1998	Jim Fitzpatrick (L) Neil Gerrard (L) Brian Jenkins (L) Jacqui Lait (C) Stephen McCabe (L) Andrew Robathan (C)	Metropolitan Police Metropolitan Police Staffordshire Police Metropolitan Police West Midlands Police Leicestershire Constabulary	<b>Post Graduates</b> Brian Donohoe (L) Roger Gale (C)		British Transport Police British Transport Police
1999	Sir Paul Beresford (C) Ian Davidson (L) Austin Mitchell (L) Rev Martin Smyth (UUP)	Metropolitan Police Strathclyde Police Humberside Police RUC (Northern Ireland)	2004	Graham Allen (L) David Borrow (L) Annette Brooke (LD) Tony Clarke (L) John Lyons (L)	Nottinghamshire Police Lancashire Constabulary Dorset Police Northamptonshire Police Strathclyde Police
2000	Tony Colman (L) Eric Pickles (C) Bob Russell (LD) Martin Salter (L)	Metropolitan Police Essex Police Essex Police Thames Valley Police	2005	Wayne David (L) Philip Hollobone (C)	Gwent Police Northamptonshire Police
2001	Brian Donohoe (L) Lorna Fitzsimons (L) Stephen Hesford (L) Jackie Lawrence (L) Jim Murphy (L) Betty Williams (L) David Wilshire (C)	Strathclyde Police Greater Manchester Police Merseyside Police Dyfed-Powys Police Strathclyde Police North Wales Police Metropolitan Police	2006	Adrian Bailey (L) David Davies (C) Philip Davies (C) Philip Dunne (C) David Gauke (C) Andrew Gwynne (L) Lord Maginnis (CB) Arlene McCarthy MEP (L) Jim McGovern (L)	West Midlands Police Gwent Police West Yorkshire Police West Mercia Police Hertfordshire Constabulary Greater Manchester Police Metropolitan Police Greater Manchester Police Tayside Police
2002	Michael Connarty (L) Barry Gardiner (L) Dr Brian Iddon (L) Chris Ruane (L) Christine Russell (L) Dari Taylor (L) Tom Watson (L) John Wilkinson (C)	Central Scotland Police Metropolitan Police Greater Manchester Police North Wales Police Cheshire Constabulary Cleveland Police West Midlands Police Metropolitan Police	2007	Celia Barlow (L) David Chaytor (L) Philip Hollobone (C) Diana Johnson (L) Fiona Mactaggart (L) Jessica Morden (L) Lynda Waltho (L)	Sussex Police Greater Manchester Police London Fire Brigade Humberside Police Thames Valley Police Gwent Police West Midlands Police

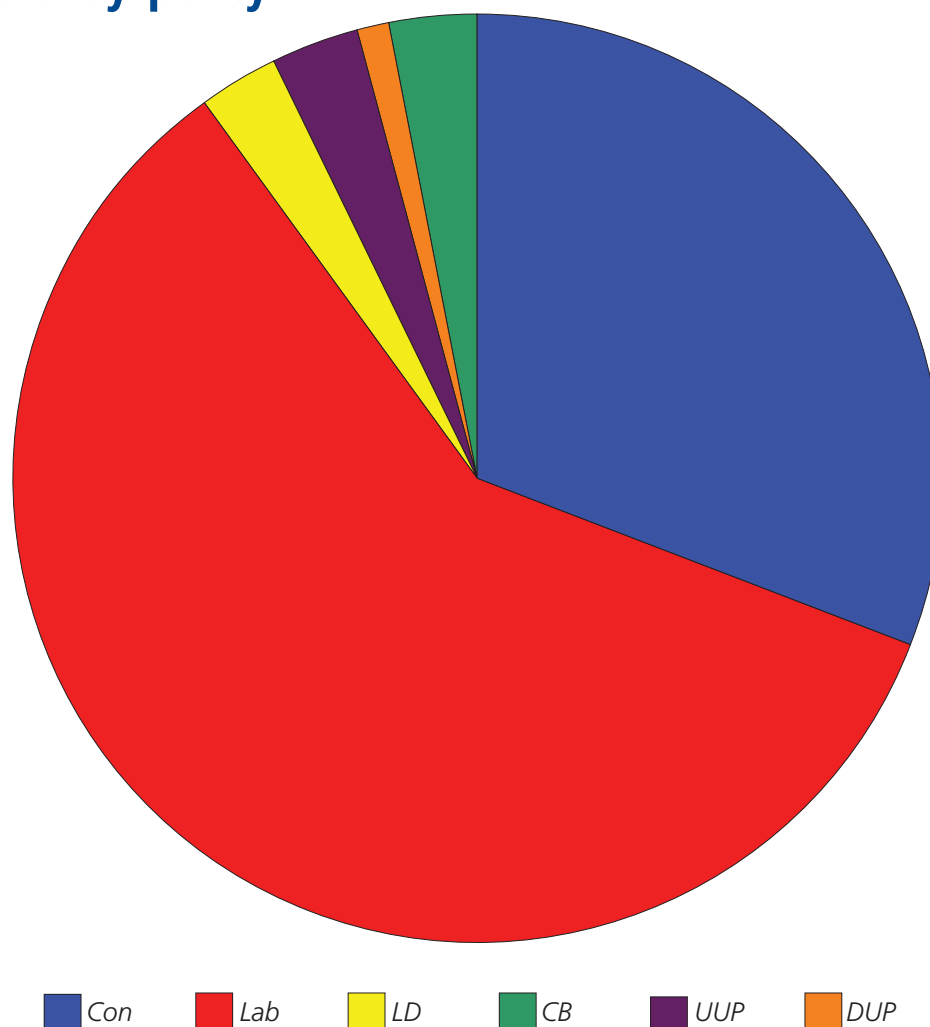




## Graduates – 1997-2012

2008	Tony Baldry (C) Rosie Cooper (L)	Thames Valley Police Lancashire Constabulary	2011	Stuart Andrew (C) Rev Dr William McCrea (DUP) Madeleine Moon (L) Lisa Nandy (L) Lord Rogan (UUP) Viscount Simon (L)	West Yorkshire Police Police Service Northern Ireland South Wales Police Greater Manchester Police Police Service Northern Ireland Essex Police
2009	Lord Chadlington (C) Baroness Coussins (CB) Stewart Jackson (C) Lord Rosser (L) Anthony Steen (C) <b>Post Graduates</b> David Davies (C) Philip Hollobone (C)	Thames Valley Police Metropolitan Police London Fire Brigade Metropolitan Police Metropolitan Police  British Transport Police British Transport Police		<b>Post Graduates</b> 2012 Michael Connarty (L) Philip Davies (C) Jim McGovern (L)	Lothian & Borders Police West Yorkshire Police Tayside Police
2010	Laurence Robertson (C) Andrew Turner (C)	Gloucestershire Constabulary Hampshire Constabulary			

## Graduates by party



# Distribution of participants

## KEY

- Conservative
- Labour
- Liberal Democrats
- Cross Bench
- Ulster Unionist Party
- Democratic Unionist Party

- MP
- MEP
- Peer

**MPS** Metropolitan

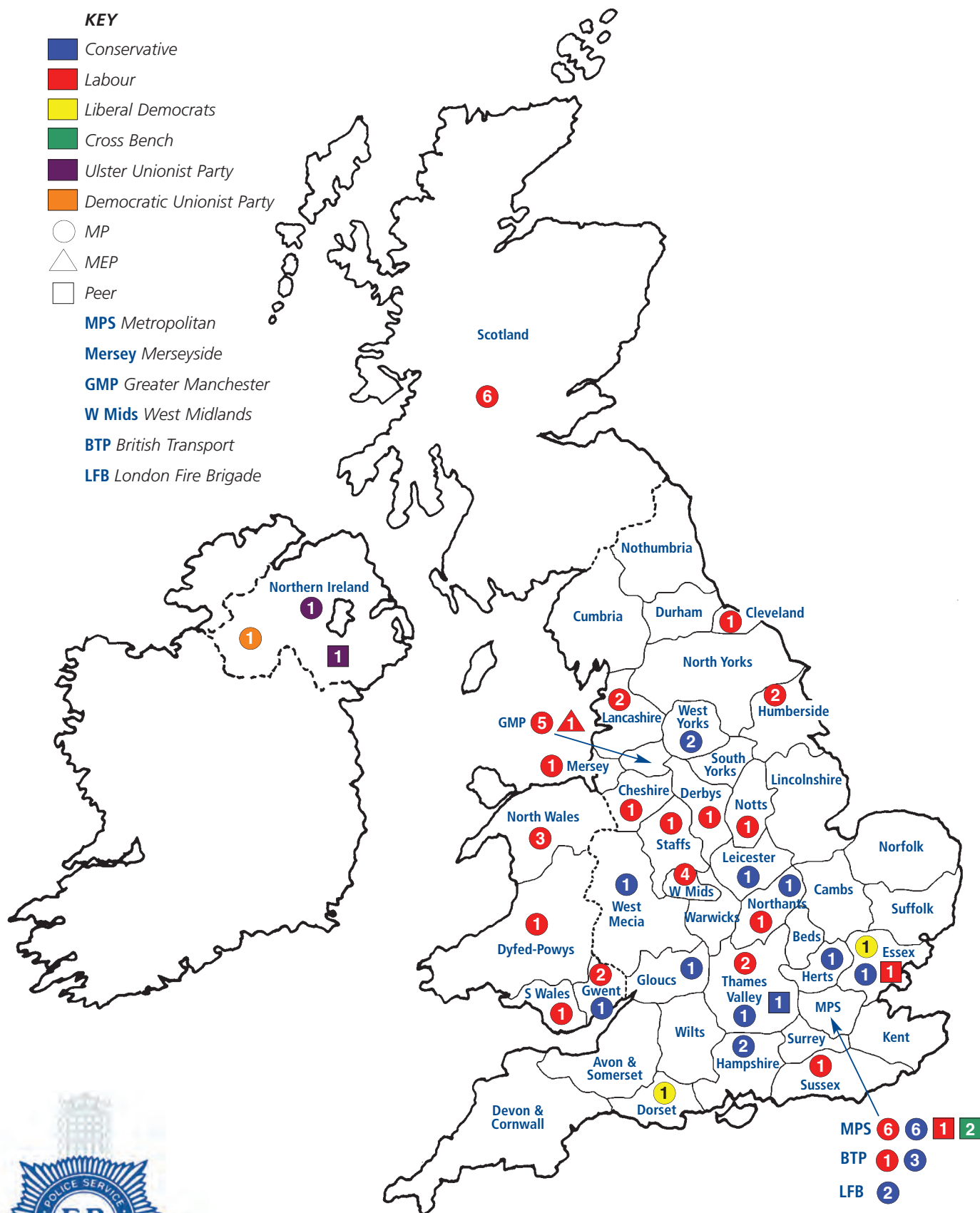
**Mersey** Merseyside

**GMP** Greater Manchester

**W Mids** West Midlands

**BTP** British Transport

**LFB** London Fire Brigade





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# Acknowledgements

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