

# Appendix 'H'

## Tactics with Public Order Dogs

- H1 Police dogs can be an invaluable resource in public disorder and provide a positive, flexible and professional response to a wide variety of situations. The deployment of dogs can at times be a sensitive subject. It is therefore of paramount importance that those requesting their assistance fully understand their capability. Their deployment provides a stand off between the crowd and police lines, affording protection to officers from direct attack. The deployment of a Dog Section Serial (DSS) working in conjunction with a Tactical Support Group or Police Support Unit (TSG/PSU) in shield formations can increase the effectiveness of the TSG/PSU in order to achieve the objectives of containment, dispersal and arrest.
- H2 They will operate wearing full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). There will be a mandatory requirement for annual accreditation in Level 1 Public Order tactics.
- H3 The DSS is a resource that is available to the TSG/PSU commander and/or Bronze commander. The TSG/PSU commander will have direct control of the DSS whilst they are working in support of the TSG/PSU.
- H4 It is important to remember that if the objective for the use of the DSS is dispersal, there must be a suitable area/route for the hostile crowd to be dispersed into/along.
- H5 When police dogs are deployed to the front of the shield formations, they must not be held in a static position and must be supported by TSG/PSU officers. The deployment of the dogs at this stage is to disperse the crowd. Police dogs will be clearly visible behind the shield line and are an appropriate deterrent factor from there.
- H6 The tactics that the DSS can be utilised in are as follows: