

Minutes of Lethal Weapons Working Group Meeting

Date:	24 June 2025
Time:	10.00 – 13.30
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting
Chair:	S.40(2)
Minute Taker:	S.40(2)

Attendance:	S.40(2)	NPCC LLW Strategic Manager
	S.40(2)	NPCC LLW
	S.40(2)	NPCC LLW
	S.40(2)	CNC
	S.40(2)	CNC
	S.40(2)	CoP
	S.40(2)	Dstl
	S.40(2)	Dstl
	Supt Ben Gillard	East Midlands region
	S.40(2)	Eastern region
	S.40(2)	Home Office Commercial
	S.40(2)	Home Office Migration & Borders
	S.40(2)	Home Office PPU
	S.40(2)	IOPC
	S.40(2)	IOPC
	S.40(2)	JPS Beds Cambs & Herts
	Ch Supt Rachel Walmsley	London region
	Supt Chris Nelson	MDP
	S.40(2)	NAPCO
	S.40(2)	S.23
	S.40(2)	North East region
	Supt Paul Richardson	North East region
	S.40(2)	North West region
	S.40(2)	NPCC BWV
	S.40(2)	NTSAG
	S.40(2)	Police Scotland
	S.40(2)	Police Scotland
	S.40(2)	POPS
	S.40(2)	PSNI
	S.40(2)	South West region
	Supt Adrian Hall	Thames Valley Police
	S.40(2)	WESCOE
	S.40(2)	West Mercia Police
Apologies	S.40(2)	APCC
	Div Cmdr Chris Casey	BTP
	S.40(2)	BTP
	ACC Sean O'Callaghan	BTP
	S.40(2)	CNC

	S.40(2) S.40(2) ACC Adam Streets ACC Karena Thomas DCC Simon Megicks ACC Julie Dean S.40(2) S.40(2) Cmdr Charmain Brenyah [REDACTED] T/DCC David Felton Supt Simon Newell [REDACTED] ACC Waddell ACC Melanie Jones Ch Supt Roberts AC Matt Twist ACC Darren O'Callaghan A/DCC Rob France Supt Ian Thompson ACC Mike O'Hara	CoP Dstl East Midlands region Eastern region Eastern region Eastern region HMPPS Home Office SIT London region S.23 North East region North West region S.40(2) Police Scotland PSNI PSNI SDAR South East region South East region South West region West Midlands region
--	---	--

No	Item	Lead
01/24-6-25	Attendance and apologies Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members joining the call.	Chair
02/24-6-25	Minutes of previous meeting held on 11 February 2025 The minutes of the last meeting were circulated, no amendments were made.	Chair
03/24-6-25	Actions arising from previous meeting Outstanding actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and updated	S.40(2)
04/24-6-25	<u>Less Lethal Weapons</u> Diversity in Less Lethal Weapons update provided by S.40(2) Work and research is being undertaken looking at gender disparity across police forces when carrying CED. Aim is to undertake focus group analysis from women officers currently carrying CEDs vs women officers who don't or have no training or interest in it. Following this look for male comparative groups to compare and understand if there's an underlying particular reason and address to increase or decrease the gender disparity. Less Lethal Weapons 5 - 50m project S.31(1), S.40(2), S.43(2) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	

[illegible]

	S.31(1) Update on new launcher update provided by S.40(2) obo S.40(2) Dstl are now working on the SRD for a replacement Launcher. S.31(1) AEP / L104 faults None reported	
06/24-6-25	<u>Conductive Energy Devices (Taser) – Projects</u> British Overseas Territories update provided by S.31(1) We have had final sign off for the document we're putting forward to the IPAS and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office updating them on what policing proposals are for training British Overseas Territories in the future. S.31(1), leading on this project, will be looking for other people to be part of the instructional team that is able to provide assistance to British Overseas Territories. S.31(1) S.31(1) Custody Healthcare Professionals update provided by S.40 obo S.40(2) S.31(1)	

S.31(1)

Draft report has been signed off and circulated to the National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group to review.

Then it will go out to the police race action plan for review, following which it will be launched.

The report centres on five areas. Five senior leaders in the UK have put those five areas together and each of those areas have a number of recommendations and it will be us launching the fact that these recommendations need to be put in place.

The report is reflective of the Tasered Academic report. There are a number of things that need to change and will make a big difference for policing and how we police our communities.

NPCC LLW T10 Project update provided by Adrian Hall

- The clarification of the results from the last test results and the contrast to the Axon material is being discussed through with DSTL/Axon/HO Science and the test house
- The updated reports with this information should be fed into the test house report this week
- The final accepted report by HO Science should then be completed by early next week
- SACMILL will then review this report with DSTL opinion to produce the medical statement which should only take a day or so as it has been updated throughout
- S.31(1)

S.31(1), S.40(2), S23(1)

	Taser Drone Project update provided by S.40(2) obo S.40(2) - S.31(1), S.43(2)	
07/24-6-25	<u>Conducted Energy Devices – Standing Agenda</u> NPCC LLW Administration update provided by S.40(2) CEDIR (CED Incident Review) is going to feature very heavily in the disproportionality recommendations so unavoidably going to land on forces very soon. 20 forces that are following the CEDIR process, which means 23+ are not. The group was asked to go back to their forces and see where they are with the CEDIR process. If unsure what CEDIR is, email LLW Administration. It is absolutely essential that this is joined up across the UK and have a consolidated approach towards reviewing incidents.	

College of Policing update provided by S.40(2)

Licensing - well over halfway through reviewing all of the submissions from April this year. Several forces have indicated they want to put themselves forward for a full licence. Still have four forces on full licences at the moment, but that number should look considerably different by the end of this year based on the indications from the licensing team.

CTI Seminar scheduled for January 2026, and the curriculum for next year will be out in draft hopefully to CTIs by December to give them an opportunity to look at that so that it can be a discussion point at the seminar, collate any feedback and hopefully get the curriculum published even earlier for next year, which just gives everyone a bit more time ahead of the submissions for 2026.

Training - main focus is T10 as well as business as usual. Six T10 Conversion Courses for existing Taser Lead Instructors and also six T10 Technician Courses have been completed, with a couple more Technician Courses booked in for next week. So all progressing nicely along with the T10 curriculum, which will be ready to put on Knowledge Hub as soon as we get the green light for approval.

Axon app – in the process of being finalised at the moment. Plan is to try to get that released at the same time that T10 is approved because there is some T10 content on there, as well as existing devices.

NTSAG asked is there an independent advisory group that specifically looks at the curriculum and gives advice. NTSAG have not been involved in this currently. Is any learning from court cases or IOPC investigations where the training has been criticised etc. being picked up and appropriately put into the training and changes to curriculum?

Action: CoP to discuss oversight of curriculum further with NTSAG

S.40(2)

CoP

NPCC BWV portfolio – update

The BWV National Board has now met twice, and attended by S.40 from LLW, whose presence was appreciated. S.31(1)

S.40

The portfolio is still awaiting the commencement of APP from the College of Policing being developed. It was scheduled for 24/25 and has yet to begin taking shape. Questions have been asked to the College as to the delay, and the importance stressed of having that governance and oversight, but also the opportunity to link in with other APPs, such as the Taser APP, and ensure that the messaging is clear and consistent.

Independent Office for Police Conduct provided by S.40(2)

No new Taser SME referrals received since the last LLW meeting in February.

Also not aware of any new Taser learning recommendations being issued either.

Update on the SME protocol on Use of Force - simultaneously working on use of force and roads policing SME protocols. For the use of force, we have received the NPCC feedback which we are considering and applying, and hope it will be ready for sign off soon.

National Taser Stakeholder Advisory Group update provided by S.40(2)

NTSAG last met on 10 June. They have been involved in the T10 process and thanks to Adrian Hall who has assisted with concerns raised.

The group have been feeding back on the disproportionality review and made feelings and concerns known about how the process has gone, and they will be commenting on the report. T10 - Concerns have been submitted through the board and directly to SACMILL. Meeting with the Policing Minister tomorrow around some of those concerns particularly around children. The group wish to develop a full and proper child rights impact assessment around Taser and any introduction of less lethal weapons. It's an obligation on the UK as a signatory under the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child, so will press that and continue to press IOPC on around mandatory referrals.

S.31(1)

S.4 advised the meeting that he carries out work overseas advising and reporting on cases. The NTSAG have promoted the model of the IOPC and SACMILL in the process around selection and testing of less lethal weapons with Spain as they don't have a national process or an effective oversight system. International work also being carried out with the UN eg. communications being held regarding policing in Bangladesh and moving to a reform process, where good practices in the UK will be highlighted, and which could easily be replicated in other jurisdictions where there is really no process at all for the introduction of appropriate less lethal weapons and lesser lethal options.

Dstl Taser 7 update - attached

SACMILL update provided by S.40(2)

Prior to the last LLW WG on 11/02/2025, SACMILL had held three T10-focused meetings. SACMILL held one more meeting on 25/02/2025 S.31(1)

Following that meeting, the committee put the final touches to their initial T10 medical statement. This was delivered to the Home Office on 12/03/2025.

In the statement, SACMILL referred to three pieces of additional testing they believed should be undertaken. Two of the bits of extra testing related to the zeroing of the weapon (said by Axon to be at 33 feet – ca. 10 m) and the ability of the darts to perforate more challenging clothing than had been used in the initial testing.

The third piece of testing related to the electrical output of the device and, in particular, what happens if more than two probes, and up to ten probes, embedded in the skin. (The darts of the T10 probes have to puncture the skin for NMI to occur.) The messaging from Axon was mixed, but Axon have now clarified: on each pulse delivered during a discharge cycle only two probes will be energised. This is no different from all other Axon CEDs. SACMILL requested independent testing to confirm this and other pulse parameters when up to ten probes have been fired. A report on this testing has gone through several drafts and is close to finalisation. A final draft for comment (from HO SIT-D

	and Dstl) and review is expected on 25/26 June. Anticipate finalisation not long after that. Dstl has been formally updating the SACMILL Chair along the way and will provide a formal briefing to the committee in the coming days. SACMILL will provide PPU with an amended T10 medical statement covering the committee's assessment of any medical implications emerging from the additional data. Home Office Police Powers Unit update provided by S.40(2) [REDACTED] S.31(1) [REDACTED] Regional updates from: Ministry of Defence Police (North East region and South Wales Police not submitted) MDP update provided by Chris Nelson Taser X2 now out of contract for MDP so paying a little over the odds for any replacements. Business Case submitted for replacement device and awaits approval. Our resources in terms of AEP ammunition is fine.	
	Date, time and location of next meeting: 14 October 2025 10.00-13.30 Teams	