

## **COVID-19 anti-vaccine related activity by members of the public**

---

**Published 25/01/2022:** Statement from ACC Alan Speirs about the intimidation of staff and volunteers working in settings related to the COVID-19 vaccine:

A number of incidents have taken place across the UK in recent days where members of the public have sought to intimidate and serve papers on staff and volunteers working in settings related to the COVID-19 vaccine.

We are also aware of individuals attending at police stations or calling police to either report what they believe to be criminal offences relating to the vaccine or to request police support in their attempts to “serve” papers on staff and volunteers or to shut down facilities.

In some cases, these individuals have claimed that a police investigation is taking place into criminal allegations relating to the UK’s vaccine programme.

The Metropolitan Police Service received a complaint and a number of documents on 20 December 2021. The MPS provided the complainers with a crime reference number and is reviewing the content of the documents.

However, the MPS has been clear that nothing has been found to suggest any offences or grounds for an investigation, and that no such investigation is taking place.

The National Police Chiefs’ Council has also said that it does not believe any of the papers which have been “served” to date have any legal standing.

Should any officer or member of staff be approached or contacted by people requesting assistance in line with any of the above, then these requests should be rejected.

A SID entry should be submitted and marked for the attention of Operation Norden, and Operation Talla should be informed via a CVI entry.

While we continue to uphold individuals’ rights to freedom of expression and to protest, this must be balanced with the rights of others, keeping the public safe, preventing crime and disorder, and seeking to minimise disruption.

None of the type of behaviour outlined above should be considered as protest activity and could in fact constitute criminal activity.

Any efforts to intimidate, harass, or commit assault against emergency service workers, staff and volunteers will not be tolerated.

ACC Alan Speirs  
Operation Talla Silver Commander