



WILTSHIRE POLICE

XXXXXXXXX
By email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 29th August 2025

Our Ref FOI 2025-685

Dear XXXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21st July 2025, concerning Palestine Action Officer guidance. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Following receipt of your request, research was conducted by the Specialist Operations department at Wiltshire Police. Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Please provide any guidance/orders you have issued as a force to your officers over the policing of protests or displays of support concerning Palestine Action since the group's proscription came into effect.

I request any communications to officers concerning this covering the period between the date the proscription came into effect until the present date.

Please also disclose any communication from external, non-governmental organisations/groups concerning the proscription of Palestine Action from within this same time-frame.

Our response:

Please find relevant **redacted** guidance / internal communications at the end of this response letter. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), some of the information contained within the guidance / internal communications is exempt by virtue of the following exemptions:

- ❖ Section 24(1) - National Security
- ❖ Section 31(1) - Law Enforcement
- ❖ Section 40(2) - Personal data

Section 24 is a prejudice-based, qualified exemptions and therefore require Wiltshire Police to establish the harm in disclosure, and the public interest for and against disclosure.

Section 31 is a prejudice-based, qualified exemptions and therefore require Wiltshire Police to establish the harm in disclosure, and the public interest for and against disclosure.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption and therefore there is no requirement to articulate the harm or conduct a Public Interest test.

- ❖ Information which constitutes personal data is exempt under Section 40(2) of the FOIA if it relates to a third party, and the disclosure to the public would contravene the data protection principles set out in Section 34 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 5 of the GDPR.

Harm Test

Providing disclosure into the public domain relating to the specific guidance provided to Officers regarding matters concerning proscribed terrorist groups, namely in this instance Palestine Action, would provide those with criminal intent intricate details regarding the Force's actions and capabilities for this area of policing. This information would be used by individuals with criminal intent, members of proscribed organisations and terrorists to undermine and obstruct operational policing and would aid them in altering their actions to evade detection. This would severely impact the Force's ability to enforce the law, ensure offenders are apprehended and our ability to protect the public and national security.

If this information were to be disclosed on a national scale, those with criminal intent, members of proscribed organisations and terrorists would be able to identify patterns of Police activity, tactical capabilities and operational planning in respect of this area. This would then be mapped by those individuals to allow them to identify specific Force areas where they may appear to be less resourced or actively policed, which would in turn increase the risk of crime and public safety as those areas would be targeted and exploited. As the request in question directly relates to a proscribed terrorist organisation, this would subsequently impact the overall security of the UK.

In addition to the above, disclosing this information would undermine the effectiveness of current and future Police operations and proceedings. This would reveal intelligence and strategies used to counter criminal activity and apprehend offenders, in particular for this request - in relation to proscribed organisations.

Factors favouring disclosure

Section 24

The public are entitled to know public money is spent in areas of operational policing. Release of the information would facilitate transparency. It would also encourage public debate about how the police prevent and detect crime and uphold the law in terms of proscription of terrorist groups in order to protect the security interests of the UK.

Section 31

Disclosure of information would provide the public with better understanding of operational policing, increase public debate and provide information which may allow the public to take steps to better protect themselves. This awareness may also lead to more information being passed to police by the public as they become more alert to suspicious activity.

Factors against disclosure

Section 24

To disclose information would render security measures less effective by revealing details of individual force capabilities which could be put together to formulate a national picture of operational counter terrorism strategy. Taking into account the current security climate within the United Kingdom, no information that may aid a criminal, terrorist or proscribed organisation should be disclosed. To what extent this information may aid terrorism in the UK is not precisely known, but it is clear that a disclosure of information will have an impact on the force's ability to monitor and police proscribed terrorist groups and terrorists effectively; compromising the security of the UK.

Section 31

By disclosing the information, law enforcement tactics would be compromised which would hinder the prevention and detection of crime specific to terrorism. More crime would be committed because members of proscribed terrorist organisations as well as terrorists more widely, would have knowledge of operational capability, tactics, strategy and intelligence which would allow them to operate more effectively as well as avoid detection. This places the public at a significant risk of harm, particularly in areas which may have been perceived to be more vulnerable than others as a result of the mapping effect explained within the harm. Any information which undermines operational law enforcement or places the public at risk is not in the public interest to disclose.

Balance Test

The security of the country is paramount, and the police service will not divulge any information if to do so would place the safety of an individual, the public at large or the national security of the UK at risk. Whilst there is a public interest in transparency of policing and promotion of public debate to improve response, there is a far stronger public interest in safeguarding national security, the integrity of operational policing and keeping the public safe. For these reasons we believe that the balancing test for disclosing the information is not made out in this case.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemptions applied:

- ❖ Section 24(1) - National Security
- ❖ Section 31(1) - Law Enforcement
- ❖ Section 40(2) - Personal data

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely,

FDU Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN



Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing to the:
Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk.

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original Fol request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the ICO's offices will be closed for the foreseeable future and are therefore unable to receive correspondence via post.

If you should wish to contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

SOP – Palestine Action (PAG)

Background

Palestine Action (PAG) is a direct-action network whose strategy is to disrupt, damage and destroy UK interests it believes are linked to the Israeli Defence industry. From the 5th July 2025, PAG is expected to become a proscribed terrorist group and as such the Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply.

Terrorism offences

Section 11 Terrorism Act 2000 – Membership of a proscribed organisation

A person commits an offence if they *belong or profess to belong* to Palestine Action

Section 12 Terrorism Act 2000 – Supporting a proscribed organisation

A person commits an offence if they:

- *Invite support* for Palestine Action;
- *Or express an opinion or belief* that is specifically in support of Palestine Action and is *reckless* as to whether this expression would encourage someone to support Palestine action.
- *Or Arrange, manage or assist in arranging/managing* a meeting, which they know: is to support, further the activities of Palestine Action or to be addressed by a person who belongs or professes to belong to Palestine Action.

Section 13 Terrorism Act 2000 – Symbols of proscribed organisations/wearing uniform.

A person commits an offence if:

- In a public place they *wear an item of clothing or wears, carries or displays an article* in such a way or in such circumstances as to *arouse reasonable suspicion* that they are a member or supporter of Palestine Action.

FIM Guidance

** Should you suspect a **Terrorism offence** relating to PAG please contact Counter Terrorism Policing (CTPSW) as follows **



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 1. [REDACTED]
- 2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Palestine Action (PAG) Briefing note [REDACTED]

On 30 June 2025 a draft order was laid before Parliament to proscribe Palestine Action under the *Terrorism Act 2000*. This has been supported by MP's and passed through the House of Lords.

As a result, as of 00.01hrs 5th July 2025, belonging to, inviting support for or displaying articles in a public place in a way that arouses suspicion of membership or support for the Palestine Action will become a criminal offence.

[REDACTED]

The following TACT offences are now applicable:

s.11 *Terrorism Act 2000* - Membership of a proscribed organisation

s.12 *Terrorism Act 2000* - Supporting a proscribed organisation

s.13 *Terrorism Act 2000* - Symbols of proscribed organisations / wearing a uniform

Who are Palestine Action:

Palestine Action (PAG) is a direct action network, co-founded in the UK on 30 July 2020. PAG's strategy is focused on sustained direct action to disrupt, damage and destroy UK interests it believes are linked to the Israeli defence industry. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- | [REDACTED]
- | [REDACTED]
- | [REDACTED]

Palestine Action (PAG)

Commander considerations

Background

Palestine Action (PAG) is a direct-action network whose strategy is to disrupt, damage and destroy UK interests it believes are linked to the Israeli Defence industry.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From the 5th July 2025, PAG is expected to become a proscribed terrorist group and as such the Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply. Further guidance regarding terrorism offences is provided further in this document [here](#).

Initial actions

Should you suspect a **Terrorism offence (TACT)** relating to Palestine Action Group, please contact Counter Terrorism Policing (CTPSW) to seek advice:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

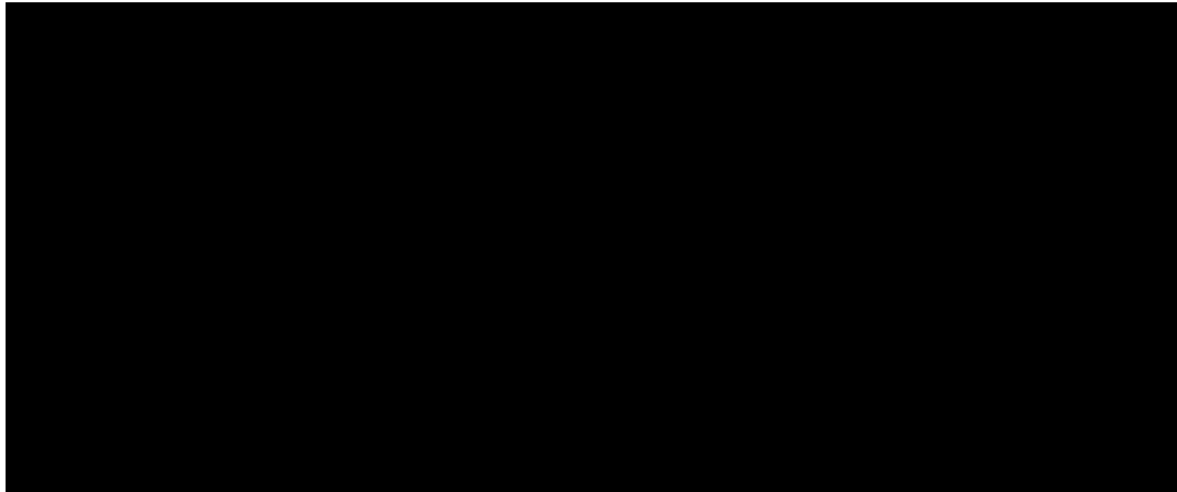
- [REDACTED]

Terrorism offences

As PAG is now a proscribed terrorist group the following Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply:

Section 11 Terrorism Act 2000 – Membership of a proscribed organisation

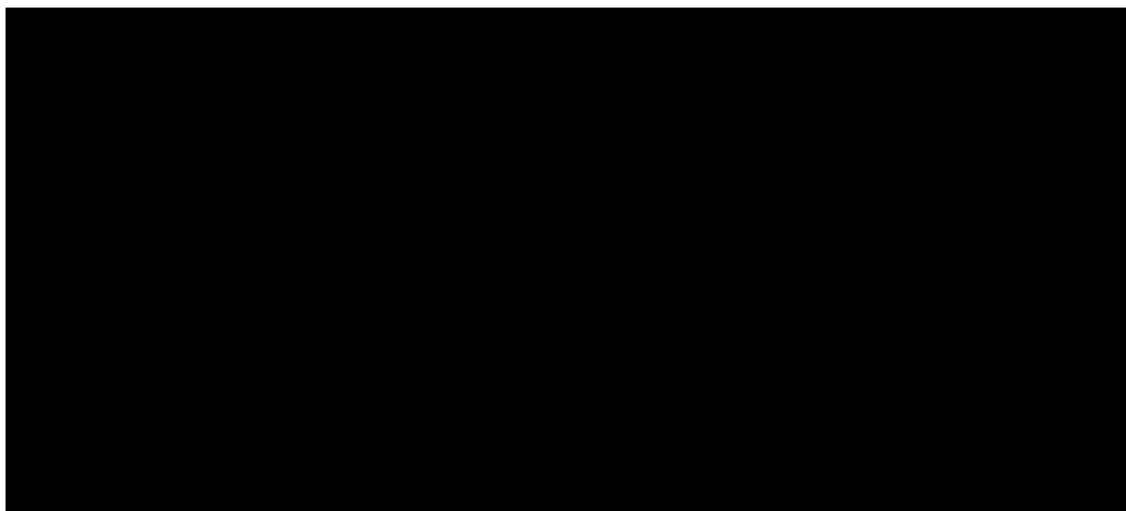
A person commits an offence if they *belong or profess to belong* to Palestine Action



Section 12 Terrorism Act 2000 – Supporting a proscribed organisation

A person commits an offence if they:

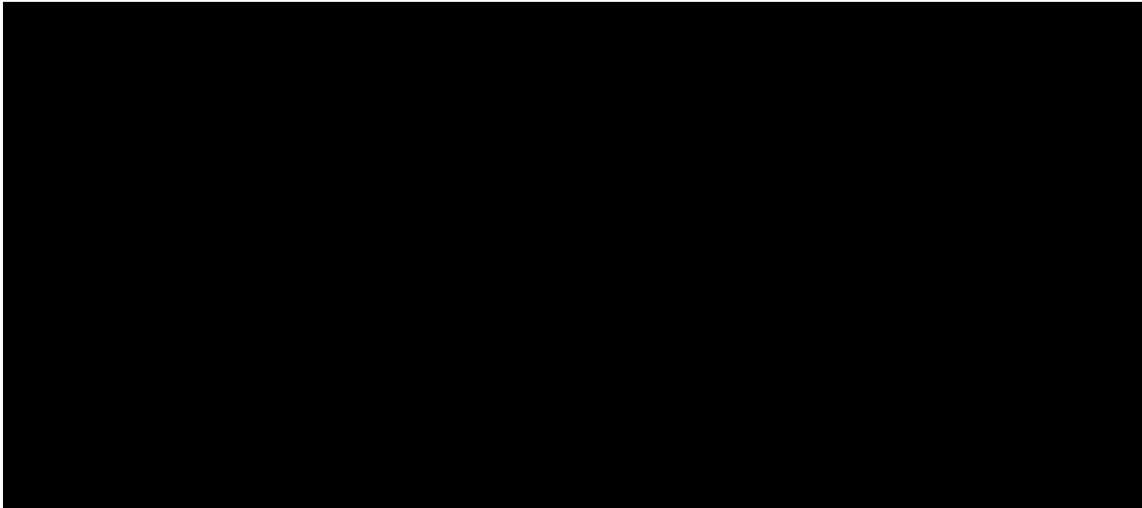
- *Invite support* for Palestine Action;
- *Or express an opinion or belief* that is specifically in support of Palestine Action and is *reckless* as to whether this expression would encourage someone to support Palestine action.
- *Or Arrange, manage or assist in arranging/managing* a meeting, which they know: is to support, further the activities of Palestine Action or to be addressed by a person who belongs or professes to belong to Palestine Action.



Section 13 Terrorism Act 2000 – Symbols of proscribed organisations/wearing uniform.

A person commits an offence if:

- In a public place they *wear an item of clothing or wears, carries or displays an article* in such a way or in such circumstances as to *arouse reasonable suspicion* that they are a member or supporter of Palestine Action.



[Redacted]

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG)
Date: 04 July 2025 22:26:00
Attachments: [SOP PAG.pdf](#)
[Palestine Action \[REDACTED\].Bulletin 04.07.25.docx](#)
[Outlook-esv2yaza.png](#)
[Outlook-a0tyukbq.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Evening [REDACTED],

You may have seen in the news this week that Palestine Action (PAG) will become a proscribed terrorist group from 0001 hours Saturday 5th July, and therefore Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply.

There was a late appeal by PAG, but it appears to have failed and will become law after midnight tonight.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I will also be sending a briefing to the Duty Gold, Duty Supt and Duty Inspectors. I will ensure wider distribution amongst the POPS command next week.

Please find attached a SOP guidance document. I have also attached [REDACTED] bulletin if you can pass to [REDACTED] for inclusion [REDACTED] please.

Please forward this to you FIM colleagues on this weekend.

Any questions give me a shout.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Specialist Operations
[REDACTED]



**WILTSHIRE
POLICE**

Keeping Wiltshire
Safe

www.wiltshire.police.uk | [facebook/wiltshirepolice](https://facebook.com/wiltshirepolice) |
[x/wiltshirepolice](https://x.com/wiltshirepolice) | [LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice](https://linkedin/company/wiltshirepolice)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 July 2025 12:53
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ; [REDACTED]
Subject: PAG

Good Afternoon,

Please find attached the word document for the [REDACTED] and the SOP for the FIM. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Boss are you preparing something for the commanders or did you want me to do it?

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
Head Of Ops Support/Specialist Operations

Specialist Ops, Major Incident Planning, Business Continuity,
Ops Planning, Drone, FCIU & ANPR

[REDACTED]

Phone:

[REDACTED]

Mobile

[REDACTED]



WILTSHIRE POLICE

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

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[LinkedIn/company/wiltshirepolice](https://linkedin/company/wiltshirepolice)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG)
Date: 04 July 2025 22:34:00
Attachments: [Commander Information - PAG.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED],

I understand you are duty this weekend.

You may have seen in the news this week that Palestine Action (PAG) will become a proscribed terrorist group from 0001 hours Saturday 5th July, and therefore Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply.

There was a late appeal by PAG, but it appears to have failed and will become law after midnight tonight, hence this email arriving late as I have waited for the appeal outcome.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I have also sent a SOP to the FIM and [REDACTED] bulletin for inclusion [REDACTED]. I will ensure wider distribution amongst the Gold, Superintendent and POPS command next week.

Please find attached a briefing document should any potential offences be reported.

Any questions give me a shout.

Sir – copied in as I believe you are Gold this weekend.

[REDACTED] – copied in as I believe you are Duty CI this weekend.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Specialist Operations
[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG) Now a Proscribed Terrorist Group
Date: 07 July 2025 14:46:00
Attachments: [Commander Information - PAG.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

FAO: POPS Command
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG) Now a Proscribed Terrorist Group

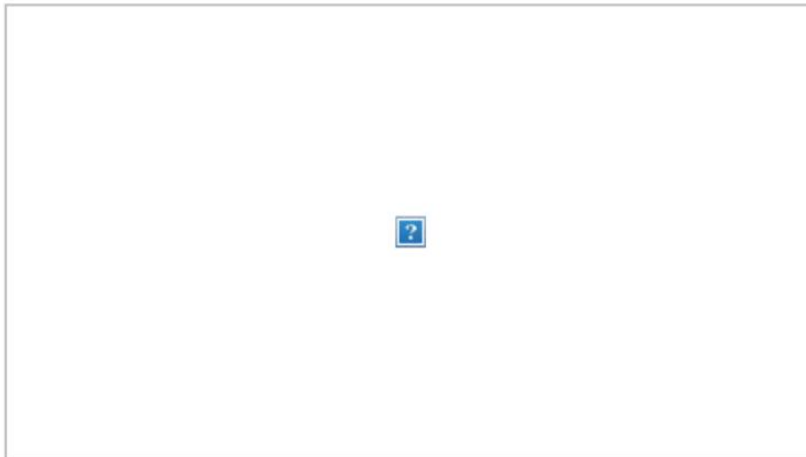
Hi all,

You may have seen in the news last week that Palestine Action (PAG) became a proscribed terrorist group from 0001 hours Saturday 5th July, and therefore Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply.

There was a late appeal by PAG, but that failed and became law last Saturday.

Over the weekend, the Met made 29 arrests of individuals displaying placards in support of PAG:

[Palestine Action: More than 20 arrested at protest, Metropolitan Police say - BBC News](#)



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I will ensure they have the same briefing.

Please find attached a briefing document for information only at this stage but may become relevant for future POPS events.

Any questions give me a shout.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Specialist Operations
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG) Now a Proscribed Terrorist Group
Date: 07 July 2025 15:04:00
Attachments: [Commander Information - PAG.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

FAO: Swindon Neighbourhoods
Subject: Palestine Action (PAG) Now a Proscribed Terrorist Group

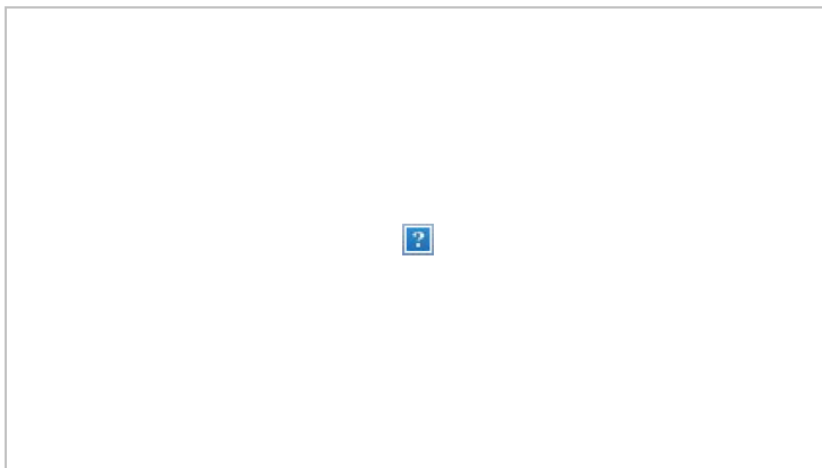
Inspectors,

You may have seen in the news last week that Palestine Action (PAG) became a proscribed terrorist group from 0001 hours Saturday 5th July, and therefore Terrorism Act offences (TACT) will apply.

There was a late appeal by PAG, but that failed and became law last Saturday.

Over the weekend, the Met made 29 arrests of individuals displaying placards in support of PAG:

[Palestine Action: More than 20 arrested at protest, Metropolitan Police say - BBC News](#)



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please find attached a briefing document for information only at this stage but may become relevant for future [REDACTED] events and worth monitoring locally.

Any questions give me a shout.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Specialist Operations
[REDACTED]