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ROUTLEDGE STUDIES IN CRIME AND SOCIETY

Collective Violence,
Democracy and Protest
Policing

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Sussex, Lancashire and West Midlands Police did not use it at all. Assistant Commissioner Allison of the Metropolitan Police told a parliamentary committee that 'this is a tactic that is very, very rarely used by the Metropolitan Police. In fact, I can only think of a couple of occasions that it has been used in terms of public protest in the last six years' (JCHR 2009b: Q122). In London, containment was first used on a public demonstration at the N30 demonstration near Euston

Table 5.16 National Public Order Intelligence Unit funding, 2003/04–2011/12

Year	Total funding, in real terms, * £'000s
2003/04	3,042
2004/05	2,954
2005/06	2,888
2006/07	2,856
2007/08	4,698
2008/09	6,355
2009/10	6,004
2010/11	4,999
2011/12	4,975 [†]

Source: *Official Report*, 5 April, 2011; vol. 526, c818W, and Home Office.

* 2011/12 prices.

† Home Office funding to NDEU: does not include additional funding from local police forces.

... spending between them. The intervening years saw relatively low spending, averaging £5m a year and reaching a low of £2.8m in 2006/07. An anomaly was 2007/08, where combined protests cost almost £10m, the majority (£7m) of this figure being spent on the Heathrow Climate Camp operation.

Spending on intelligence

Real terms spending on NPOIU is shown in table 5.16. The figures show an even level of funding after 2003/04 (around £2.9m, all from local police forces), followed by a large increase in 2007/08, when the Home Office began to make a contribution to the funding of the unit. By 2008/09, the budget had doubled to £6m. The budget decreased in the last financial years of the period.

Containment

Data concerning the frequency of the operational use of containment at protests is sketchy. Table 5.17 shows that Thames Valley Police thrice used containment on public demonstrations after 2000; Greater Manchester Police used it eight times. Sussex, Lancashire and West Midlands Police did not use it at all. Assistant Commissioner Allison of the Metropolitan Police told a parliamentary committee that 'this is a tactic that is very, very rarely used by the Metropolitan Police. In fact, I can only think of a couple of occasions that it has been used in terms of public protest in the last six years' (JCHR 2009b: Q122). In London, containment was used at a 2009 demonstration near Euston

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