

Briefing for Stakeholders (3)

Operation Mansell, 14 August, 2013

Current situation:

There are currently in excess of 100 individuals at the protest camp at anyone time. This is expected to increase from tomorrow and for the remainder of the week into the weekend, with the announcement that the annual 'Reclaim the Power' protest camp are relocating to Balcombe from Nottinghamshire between 16 - 21 August, which has significantly increased focus on the site and the Force is now preparing for additional new protesters from environmental, economic and social justice networks. Numbers are not yet confirmed but we should anticipate up to 1000 persons attending.

Police role:

Sussex Police are experienced at managing protests and we are offering reassurance to local residents by way of weekly street surgeries every Saturday, enhanced visibility and a letter from the local District Commander has been circulated to explain our role and give contact details. There will be local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) officers on duty every day and are contactable on the below email address.

We are continuing to be open, engage with the protestors, local people and the media to explain our role and try and balance everyone's needs.

The Police has chaired a meeting of the Strategic Co-ordinating Group and agreed protocols. It will meet again tomorrow. The group represents statutory bodies across Sussex, including Fire, Ambulance, WSCC, Mid Sussex, Environment Agency and Local Government. It will co-ordinate a multi-agency response to the camp.

Arrests:

As of yesterday's date there have been 40 arrests and 33 charged, which include stopping drivers and other workers from accessing the site under the Section 241 Trade Union Labour Relations Act, obstruction of the highway and obstruct/resisting a constable in the execution of duty.

Resources:

It is likely that the drilling will continue for the next few weeks and resources are being reviewed constantly to the lowest level necessary to achieve our aims and maintain operational resilience across Sussex.

Approximately 100 officers a day are currently policing the site and we have the support of mutual aid from the South East region to provide resilience where needed. This is likely during the period of the camp.

Contact:

If you would like to talk to someone in relation to the policing operation in the village, please email Mid Sussex NPT - midsussexnpt@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

Kind regards,



Jon Hull
Chief Inspector
Mid Sussex District Commander