15 December 2011

Statistical News Release

Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 and subsequent legislation: Arrests, outcomes and stops and searches, Great Britain
Quarterly update to June 2011

This is the latest in a series of quarterly statistical bulletins to go alongside the annual publication. It brings together information on terrorism arrests, outcomes and stops and searches. The latest published annual report covers the period up to 31 March 2011.

Terrorism arrests and outcomes:

In the year ending 30 June 2011:

- There were 134 persons arrested for terrorism-related offences compared with 131 in the previous 12 months. In total, 1,998 persons have been arrested for terrorism-related offences since 11 September 2001.

- Thirty-one per cent of those arrested were charged. Fifty-two per cent of these charges were terrorism related.

- No individuals were held in pre-charge detention for longer than seven days.

- Of the 18 persons charged with terrorism-related offences in this period, three were convicted of a terrorism-related offence at the time of publication and 13 were still awaiting prosecution. Following charges made since 11 September 2001, 250 persons have been convicted of terrorism-related offences.

- Trials for 12 defendants were completed by the Crown Prosecution Service Counter-Terrorism Division in this period, with three-quarters of defendants convicted. Eight of the nine offenders convicted were sentenced to custody including four life sentences; the remaining person was given a non-custodial sentence.

- There were 116 persons in prison for terrorist/extremist or related offences on 30 June 2011 of whom 28 were classified as domestic extremists/separatists.
Stops and searches under the Terrorism Act 2000

In the year ending 30 June 2011:

- There were 675 stops and searches in Great Britain under s44 of the Terrorism Act 2000, a 99 per cent fall over the previous 12 months. Eighteen per cent of those stopped and searched under these powers classified themselves as Asian or Asian British. On 18 March 2011, s44 stop and search powers were formally replaced by s47A powers. However, in April to June 2011 there were no uses of these powers.

- The Metropolitan Police made 1,283 stops and searches under s43 of the Terrorism Act 2000. Thirty-four per cent of those searched classified themselves as Asian or Asian British.

- A total of seven arrests were made following s44 stops and searches in Great Britain, but none of these arrests was identified as terrorism related.

Notes to editors

This bulletin extends up to 30 June 2011 the data in the annual bulletin covering 2010/11 published on 13 October 2011.

Descriptions of the type of terrorism offences and the stop and search powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 are given in the bulletin.

Although most of the statistics enclosed in the publication are not classified as National Statistics the publication arrangements for this report are in line with these procedures. Following further improvements in quality and content we will seek to have the series considered for designation as National Statistics by the UK Statistics Authority.

The report is available online through the UK Statistics Authority website as well as the Home Office website.