

# Operation Rhondda







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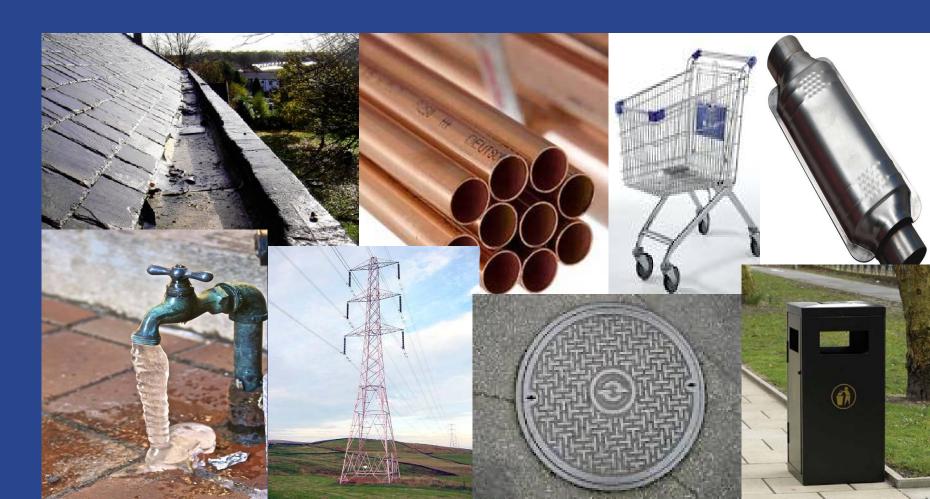




 The operation, code-named "OPERATION RHONDDA" was a joint undertaking by the British Transport Police and Greater Manchester Police, aimed at identifying and prosecuting scrap metal dealers who allow stolen goods to be sold through their businesses.



# Regional Rise





### **Progress**

- Overt Policing
- Education & Enforcement of Scrap Metal Dealers
- Operation Tornado

Regional Reduction of 50%

Intelligence suggested underground activity



## Sequence of events

- Educational Visits. (Uniform/CID Officers advising staff and directors on SMD act, supplying advice and posters).
- Undercover Operatives visit and conduct sale of suspected stolen metals.
- Covert CCTV and seizure of accounts: (CCTV monitoring visits to the yards and comparisons have been made to the accounts which shows discrepancies).
- Arrest, Searches and Interviews.



#### Restrictions

Intelligence case – No less than 3 months old

RIPA applications against yards and individuals

Set up costs in excess of £150k

Operation Tornado Photographic identification

Commodity availability & storage



## Deployment

Minimum 3 purchases

Covert footage

Criminal Profile Of Undercover Officers



#### How did we do ??

- 14 yards on intelligence case
- 8 positive series of sales
- 2 straight rejections on 3 occasions
- 2 Attempted but unable to approach Directors or Managers
- 1 NFA due to director being arrested for serious offences
- 1 To have its time again .....



#### Strike

- 21 Suspects
- 8 Scrap Metal Dealer Yards
- 20 Home addresses
- 16 Interview Teams
- 400 Officers
- 80 Vehicles
- 3000 Exhibits











## Charges

- 72 Charges in total
- 40 Attempt Handling Stolen Goods
- 6 Encouraging/Assisting Commission of a Crime
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- 26 Converting Criminal Property (POCA)