



**NBPA Press Release – IOPC Operation Forbes - Independent Investigation into Cleveland Police**

The National Black Police Association welcomes yesterday's announcement by the Independent Office for Police Conduct of Operation Forbes, an independent investigation into Cleveland Police. This overarching inquiry has promised to embrace a range of misconduct investigations including the cases of their former officers, Nadeem Saddique, who won a race discrimination employment tribunal in November 2015, and Mark Dias who received an apology and payout from the force in August 2017.

"The common factor in these three investigations is the skin colour of the discriminated officers and highlights a systematic abuse of process by individuals in that force that goes back decades. The mistreatment of their Asian and black colleagues is the very definition of the term institutional racism.

"The disgraceful treatment of Nadeem Saddique, Mark Dias, Sultan Alam, Waseem Khan, and other cops based on their heritage shames nearly two centuries of the Peelian model of British policing. But before talk about one bad apple, in recent years black and brown officers in other forces have found bananas in their lockers, toy monkeys on their desks, had their personal protective equipment destroyed, their cars impounded without reason and have been falsely arrested. This racist behaviour is engrained in the culture of certain forces and Cleveland Police is not alone.

"Such discriminatory behaviour is a red flag and the Inspectorate must be your more intrusive when checking policing for race. Otherwise, twenty years on from Macpherson this cancer that will continue to spread unchecked, a threat to the legitimacy of British policing. We urge Cleveland and other forces to work with the NBPA and others to deal with institutional racism."

Tola Munro, NBPA President

**Note to Editors:**

Press Queries to: 07921 095262 (by text).

Calls to Tola Munro on 07464 653 612

- Operation launched focused on allegations of discrimination at Cleveland Police - <https://policeconduct.gov.uk/news/operation-launched-focused-allegations-discrimination-cleveland-police> - 25 January 2018
- Cleveland Police facing wide-ranging investigation into racism and phone snooping - [http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/15897189.Cleveland\\_Police\\_facing\\_wide\\_ranging\\_investigation\\_into\\_racism\\_and\\_phone\\_snooping/](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/15897189.Cleveland_Police_facing_wide_ranging_investigation_into_racism_and_phone_snooping/) - 25 January 2018
- Extra watchdog manpower piled into Cleveland Police inquiry into discrimination - <https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/extra-watchdog-manpower-piled-cleveland-14201155> - 25 January 2018
- New IOPC operation to investigate Cleveland Police - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-42821789> - 25 January 2018
- The Inspectorate of Policing reported in December 2017 that Cleveland Police was one of the six forces assessed as 'requires improvement' in the 2017 PEEL legitimacy inspections. <https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs/news/news-feed/forces-working-hard-to-improve-their-legitimacy/> - December 2017
- No evidence Cleveland Police targeted its own Asian officers, internal review finds - [http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/15774515.No\\_evidence\\_Cleveland\\_Police\\_targeted\\_its\\_own\\_Asian\\_officers\\_internal\\_review\\_finds/](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/15774515.No_evidence_Cleveland_Police_targeted_its_own_Asian_officers_internal_review_finds/) - 14 December 2017
- Cleveland Police illegally monitored officers get £3k: a "serious issue to resolve" which could have "profound consequences for the force". - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-40872754> - 9 August 2017
- Cleveland Police to pay out £185k to four officers and three will return to work - <https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/cleveland-police-pay-out-185k-12471349> - 18 January 2017