

Policy Name:	TASK FORCES		
Policy #:	OP 6.3.6	Last Updated:	2022-09-29
Issued By:	SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU	Approved By:	SURREY POLICE BOARD
		Review Frequency:	AS REQUIRED

RELATED POLICIES

OP 4.34.8 *Major Case Management*

1. PURPOSE

1.1. To detail the processes for Surrey Police Service (SPS) for the formation and operationalization of Task Forces within SPS.

2. SCOPE

2.1. This policy applies to all SPS Employees.

2.2. This policy pertains to internal Task Forces and does not cover Joint Force Operations (partnerships with other law enforcement agencies).

3. POLICY

3.1. Task Forces are investigative or project-based teams that work together for a limited time, combining the resources and knowledge of multiple units/investigators to resolve a specific crime and/or public safety issue or concern.

3.2. Since Task Forces are resource-intensive, a Task Force will only be used for investigations that have a reasonable likelihood of solvability or a high-profile issue of particular concern, and which meet at least one of the following criteria:

- i. serial crimes against persons (e.g., a series of sex offences with the same *modus operandi* and therefore appear to have been perpetrated by the same person or persons);
- ii. serial incidents of criminal activity that has caused, or could potentially cause, significant harm to the public (e.g., a break-and-enter or home invasion series);
- iii. serial incidents of significant property damage (e.g., repeated occurrences of arson which are believed to be connected);

- iv. to proactively target an area or neighbourhood where a specific and ongoing criminal or public safety activity has been identified by the community and/or the police; or
- v. any other significant activity, especially those which have impacted the public's perception of safety (e.g., a series of hate-related incidents).

3.3. Task Forces must be approved by the Officer in Charge (OIC), Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) or their delegate, and upon review of an Operational Plan prepared by a Supervisor.

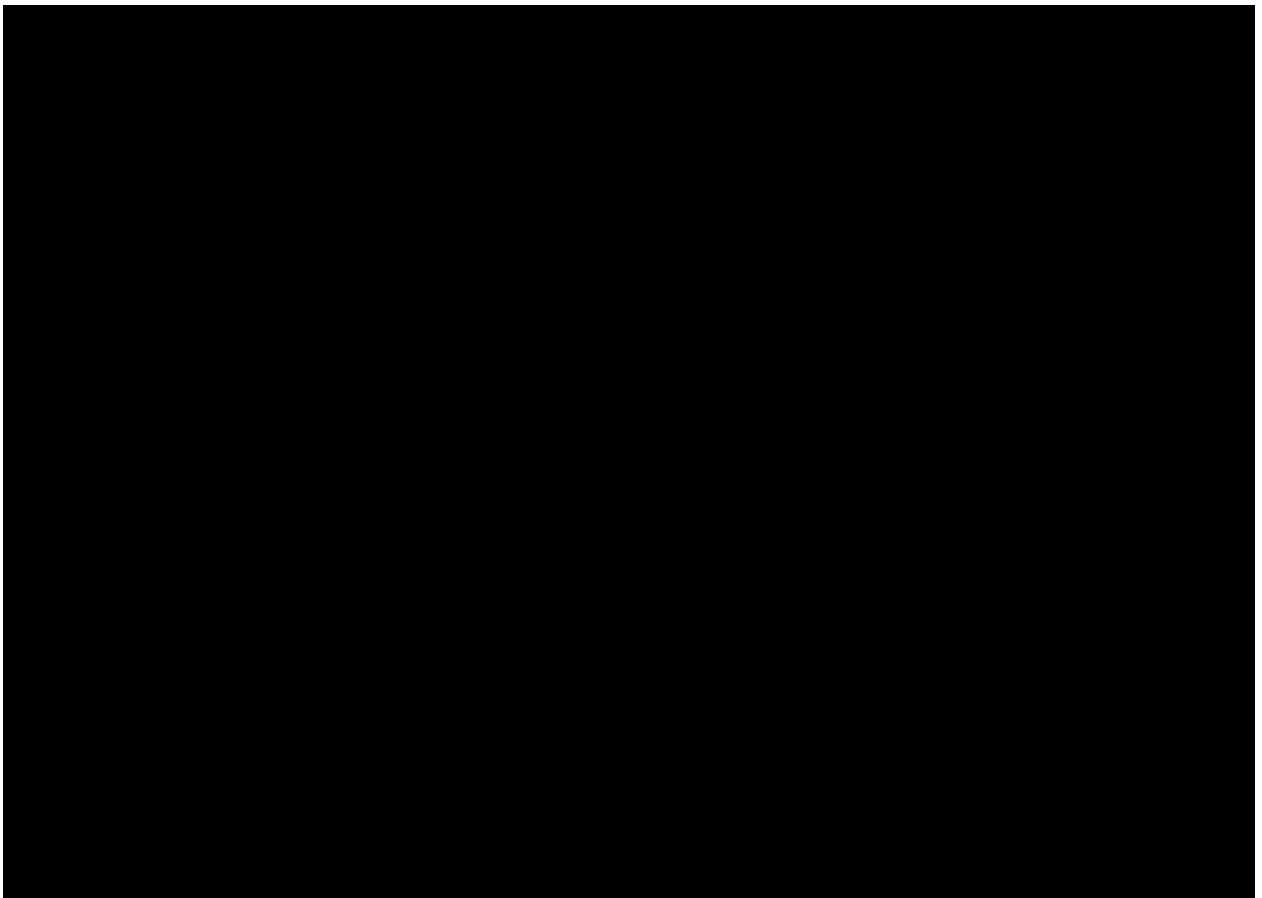
3.4. SPS Task Forces will use Major Case Management (MCM) principles.

3.5. At the discretion of the Task Force's Team Commander, SPS Task Forces may engage the expertise of external resources (e.g., community agencies), where necessary and appropriate.

3.6. The Task Force will be disbanded upon the successful conclusion of the investigation, or if the Team Commander determines that the Task Force cannot meet its objectives.

4. PROCEDURE

4.1. When a Section, Unit, or Team Supervisor identifies a need for a Task Force, they will develop an Operational Plan for a Task Force. The Operational Plan should include:



- 4.2. The OIC, ISB or their delegate will review the Operational Plan and will either approve the Operational Plan, request further information, or decline to approve the plan. Once approved, the Operational Plan will form the guiding principles of the Task Force.
- 4.3. The OIC, ISB or their delegate will assign a Team Commander to lead the Task Force.
- 4.4. The Team Commander will request the secondment of appropriate resources from other Teams, Units, or Sections as necessary to fulfill the requirements of the Task Force:
 - i. the Team Commander should make every effort to ensure diversity within the Task Force, and where appropriate and feasible, to provide development opportunities;
 - ii. Members must have the approval of their Supervisor before requesting secondment to a Task Force; and
 - iii. secondments will occur in accordance with the Collective Agreement, if applicable.
- 4.5. The Team Commander will establish the Command Triangle, which will follow the roles and responsibilities established in OP 4.34.8 *Major Case Management* and the *BC Provincial Policing Standards* Section 5.2 - Major Case Management.
- 4.6. Based on the conditions in the Operational Plan, the Team Commander or their delegate will report periodically to the monitoring officer and the OIC, ISB on the activities and progress of the Task Force.
- 4.7. The Team Commander will continuously evaluate the effectiveness of the Task Force. If the Task Force is not performing effectively, the Team Commander will:
 - i. determine what changes are necessary to improve its performance, and will make those changes; or
 - ii. conclude the Task Force, if it does not appear that the Task Force will meet its objectives or achieve any desirable outcomes.
- 4.8. Before the anticipated conclusion date of the Task Force (as stated in the Operational Plan), the Team Commander will evaluate and determine the need to continue the Task Force past the conclusion date. If the Team Commander believes that the Task Force should continue, they will seek the approval of the OIC, ISB to continue the work of the Task Force.
- 4.9. Upon the conclusion of the Task Force, the Team Commander will evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Task Force. The Team Commander will seek input and feedback from the Task Force Members and will draft a concluding report for the OIC, ISB.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

“Employee” means a sworn Member or civilian employee appointed by the Surrey Police Board.

“ISB” means the Investigative Services Bureau.

“Member” means a sworn Police Officer appointed by the Surrey Police Board.

“OIC” means Officer in Charge.

“Supervisor” means Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Inspector, Superintendent, Deputy Chief Constable, Chief Constable, and any other person acting in a Supervisory capacity who is accountable for a particular area or shift on behalf of SPS.

APPENDIX B: REFERENCES

British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards, Section 5.2 - Major Case Management

Collective Agreement Between the Surrey Police Board and the Surrey Police Union: 2022-2024