

POLICE

Police Magazine Update

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Police need complete support from government to tackle riots

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The Police Federation has called for the complete support of the government community leaders and the public to help police to put a stop to the riots spreading across London.

Trouble flared again last night across the capital and other cities, including Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Bristol and Nottingham. For the third night shops were looted, buildings and vehicles burned.

An extra 1,700 police officers were put onto the streets in London to crackdown on the outbreak of violence but officers were stretched to their limit.

Paul McKeever, chairman of the Police Federation, said the events were “shocking” and praised those police officers who had spent hours trying to deal with the violence in Croydon, Clapham, Woolwich, Lewisham, Ealing and other boroughs across London.

He said: “This is a seismic event and one which the government cannot ignore. Our colleagues need the complete support of government, the public and community leaders if we are to exercise the necessary force to bring this to an end.

“We have to ensure our colleagues have all the resources and support that is available to them and put a stop to the spreading anarchy. The continued bravery and professionalism of our colleagues is something that is truly heroic.”

Mr McKeever is seeking an urgent meeting with Home Secretary Theresa May and is due to meet with Hugh Orde, president of ACPO, to discuss the situation.

The country woke up to scenes of carnage, shops and cars burnt out, windows smashed and people’s homes razed to the ground. In some areas police and fire services could not attend because of the volume of calls and rioting.

Home Secretary Theresa May called for “robust policing” and the “help of communities” to deal with the outbreak. She added: “We do need to bring an end to this we need to bring an end to it soon.”