

## A MESSAGE FROM BCU COMMANDER, CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT HELEN HARPER



Dear all,

### ITV debate

Some of you may have seen our Assistant Commissioner Helen Ball appear on a live ITV debate last night. The show "Stephen Lawrence: Has Britain changed?" was hosted by Rageh Omaar and featured a panel of guests who examined how equal the UK really is, and what needs to change.

I would encourage you all to watch the show, which involves important, complex conversations about policing in London and the UK. It is crucial for us to be part of these conversations in order to build trust with our communities.

We will continue to do everything we can to work as closely as possible with all our communities and develop stronger relationships between police and the public.

The full episode can be watched here: <https://www.itv.com/hub/stephen-lawrence-has-britain-changed/10a0470a0001>

### Violence

Sadly, we have seen a number of significantly violent incidents in recent days, including a murder in north London just last night. Specialist detective are progressing an investigation into the circumstances and we hope to be able to update you on this shortly.

Suppressing violent crime remains the top priority for everyone in the Metropolitan Police Service. One homicide, one stabbing, one violent incident is one too many.

Our officers continue to work around the clock to identify and pursue offenders, support victims, take weapons off the street and engage and reassure the public.

I want to reassure you that over this coming weekend we will have additional, specialist resources out across the capital including officers from our Violence Crime Taskforce and Suppression Units.

If you are worried about someone, advice and support is available through organisations including Knife Free: <https://www.knifefree.co.uk/get-help-support/> and Fearless: <https://www.fearless.org/en>.

You can also visit our website for further information: [www.met.police.uk/stopknifecrime](http://www.met.police.uk/stopknifecrime)

Kindest regards

Helen

BCU Commander Central West BCU and Royal Parks

