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## **Request Received 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

*Information with regard to Operation Stack from January 2007 to date.*

*Date each time Operation Stack has been put in force.*

*Duration of Op Stack being in place.*

*Reason for being put in place.*

Operation Stack is the name given to the traffic management plan used by Kent Police when, as a result of restrictions at the Port of Dover, it is necessary to transform sections of the M20 motorway into a lorry park. Operation Stack is introduced as an emergency measure only after consultation with other agencies and following an assessment of issues such as safety concerns and disruption on the road network. When this operation is running Kent Police park lorries in three rows on the M20 motorway until these can be directed either to the channel tunnel or to ferries to Dover. Other traffic is diverted from the motorway during this time.

There are three phases of Operation Stack implemented by Kent Police. Phase one is the initial phase and this operates by closing junctions 11 (Hythe) and 12 (Cheriton) coast bound. Meanwhile a contra flow is in place to allow all other traffic to continue to flow in both directions, whilst the lorries are parked coast bound.

Phase two is implemented when the M20 between junctions 11 and 12 becomes full. This phase operates by closing the M20 Motorway coast bound between junctions 8 (Leeds Castle) and 9 (Ashford West) in order to allow more lorries to park on these parts of the motorway. In the mean time non-freight traffic is diverted onto the A20. This helps to reduce road congestion in and around Dover at the channel crossing terminals.

Phase three of Operation Stack involves closing the M20 London bound between junctions 8 and 9 (Ashford to Maidstone). This information and further information relating to Operation Stack is available on the Kent Police website which can be accessed through the following link [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk) and on the Kent County Council website at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk).

I have attached at Appendix 1 a table that provides details of the dates, times and where known the reason Operation Stack has been implemented since January 2007 to date.

## Appendix 1

Date	Time	Phase	Set up Stand-down	Reason
11-Jan-07	12:30	1	set up	Adverse weather conditions and industrial action France (Channel Tunnel)
11-Jan-07	15:20	2	set up	
12-Jan-07	19:30	2	stand down	
13-Jan-07	04:55	1	stand down	
18-Jan-07	12:24	1	set up	Build up of LGVs at the Channel Tunnel, following the closure of Dover port due to the severe weather in the English Channel.
18-Jan-07	14:22	2	set up	
19-Jan-07	03:00	2	stand down	
19-Jan-07	14:30	1	stand down	
05-Dec-07	14:58	1	set up	problems at Dover Port - damaged ferry and two others with anchor chains entangled
05-Dec-07	14:58	2	set up	
05-Dec-07	23:59	2	stand down	
05-Dec-07	23:59	1	stand down	
15-Jan-08	14:12	1	set up	Adverse weather conditions, Dover Port Closed at 1200 hrs French strike
16-Jan-08	09:58	2	set up	
17-Jan-08	03:17	2	stand down	
17-Jan-08	03:17	1	stand down	
31-Jan-08	12:33	1	set up	Adverse weather Conditions, Port of Dover closed
31-Jan-08	17:20	2	set up	
31-Jan-08	19:43	2	stand down	
01-Feb-08	00:06	1	stand down	
05-Feb-08	20:25	1	set up	Adverse weather conditions with a build up of traffic to POD
06-Feb-08	01:29	1	stand down	
28-Feb-08	15:52	1	set up	Sea France Strike
29-Feb-08	08:53	1	stand down	
29-Feb-08	18:00	1	set up	Sea France Strike
01-Mar-08	09:08	2	set up	
01-Mar-08	22:49	2	stand down	
02-Mar-08	02:18	1	stand down	
03-Mar-08	19:00	1	set up	Sea France Strike
04-Mar-08	02:05	1	stand down	
04-Mar-08	14:30	1	set up	Sea France Strike
04-Mar-08	19:32	2	set up	
07-Mar-08	15:00	3	set up	
07-Mar-08	17:15	3	stand down	
09-Mar-08	11:12	2	stand down	
09-Mar-08	11:12	1	stand down	
10-Mar-08	15:36	2+	set up	Weather Situation/Sea France strike
11-Mar-08	04:56	2+	stand down	
11-Mar-08	14:15	2	set up	Weather Situation/Sea France strike
12-Mar-08	05:46	2	stand down	

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12-Mar-08	08:30	2	set up	Weather Situation/Sea France strike
14-Mar-08	04:44	2	stand down	
14-Mar-08	11:08	2	set up	Sea France strike
15-Mar-08	19:03	2	stand down	
21-May-08	09:45	2	set up	Blockade of Calais Port by fisherman
23-May-08	02:00	2	stand down	
11-Sep-08	17:11	2	set up	Resultant congestion due to fire in Channel Tunnel
14-Sep-08	00:31	2	stand down	
16-Sep-08	17:28	1	set up	POD and Eurotunnel unable to accommodate the number of LGVs
16-Sep-08	20:36	2	set up	
17-Sep-08	02:31	2	stand down	
16-Sep-08	23:54	1	stand down	
17-Sep-08	13:50	1	set up	POD and Eurotunnel unable to accommodate the number of LGVs
17-Sep-08	23:03	1	stand down	
24-Sep-08	14:13	1	set up	
24-Sep-08	23:30	1	stand down	
30-Sep-08	17:30	1 (+0)	set up	
30-Sep-08	23:35	1 (+0)	stand down	
01-Oct-08	14:40	1 (+0)	set up	
01-Oct-08	23:32	1 (+0)	stand down	
03-Oct-08	16:21	2	set up	French fishermen blockading Calais
03-Oct-08	22:18	2	stand down	
15-Oct-08	08:30	1	set up	French Industrial Action commenced at 0700 hrs BST (24 hr strike)
15-Oct-08	08:40	2	set up	
15-Oct-08	14:30	2	stand down	
15-Oct-08	23:00	1	stand down	
21-Dec-08	04:29	1	set up	Stack was implemented in response to heavy freight flow through Dover Docks.
21-Dec-08	23:31	1	stand down	
14-Apr-09	15:20	1	set up	Blockage in Boulogne Calais and Dunkirk fishermen's strike
14-Apr-09	15:20	2	set up	
15-Apr-09	05:09	2	stand down	
15-Apr-09	07:20	2	set up	
16-Oct-09	13:30	2	set up	French Ferries strike and subsequence port action
17-Oct-09	06:42	2	stand down	
18-Nov-09	16:10	1	set up	Windy weather and back log at Dover ports Phase 1 Only
19-Nov-09	10:50	1	set up	
19-Dec-09	07:30	2	set up	Due to bad weather (snow) and large amount of passenger traffic
21-Dec-09	4:00	2	stand down	
11-Feb-10	16:00	1	set up	Weather conditions - Snow
12-Feb-10	01:00	1	stand down	