

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Operation Dzo falls under the umbrella of Operation Winterkey; the Metropolitan Police Service's (MPS) response to allegations of non-recent sexual abuse of children perpetrated by persons of prominence in circumstances where there are believed to be wider institutional failings.

1.2 Operation names assigned to criminal investigations are chosen from a list held on a central database. There is no direct or indirect link between the nature of the investigation and origin of the operation name. To avoid duplication or confusion with other investigations operation names are unique within the MPS. In this instance the word 'Dzo' was the next available operation name on the central list. The word originates from mid-19th century Tibet as a reference towards a hybrid animal derived from a cow and a yak.

1.3 The genesis of Op Dzo was a criminal investigation undertaken in 2004 by the Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) based in Northwood, North West London in. The Northwood CAIT at the time had geographical responsibility for offences alleged to have taken place within the boundaries of the London Borough of Ealing. The investigation was taken on by Op Winterkey in March 2016.

1.4 Andrew Charles Kingston Soper, (also known as Father Laurence Soper) was born on [REDACTED] 1943 and at the age of twenty-one entered the Ealing Abbey, a Benedictine Monastery, on 24 September 1964. St Benedict's School was attached to the Abbey with Soper understood to have been employed there in various roles since 1973, including teaching mathematics for the duration of his employment. He undertook the role of Bursar the period 1975-1991 and was the Master in Charge of the Middle School for the period 1978-1984. Soper also undertook pastoral duties at the Young Offender's Institution at Feltham, West London during the period 1989 –1991. He resigned as the Abbot from Ealing Abbey on 25th March 2000.