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# 'Beats'

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## Police operations at 'beats' (public toilets, parks etc)

Do not conduct covert operations to investigate complaints about the use of 'beats' by men, for sexual or social contact with other men, unless you have the written approval of your local area commander.

### *Local area commander*

Give priority to using marked vehicles and uniformed officers when investigating complaints or carrying out enforcement operations.

Where appropriate, liaise with your Police Gay/Lesbian Liaison Officer or the Police Gay/Lesbian Client Group Consultant, Police Headquarters to arrange a joint approach with interested groups (eg: Health Department, AIDS Council).

Where appropriate (eg: complaints of assaults) you may authorise, in writing, a covert operation. Consider the number and nature of the complaints before making a decision.

Ensure operational orders are prepared for covert operations and police involved are:

- instructed not to incite or encourage unlawful conduct or behaviours
- aware of the ramifications of entrapment/agent provocateur (evidence so obtained will be excluded by courts)
- aware of the need for integrity to alleviate allegations of misconduct
- aware that professional police behaviour at 'beats' will lead to an increase in reporting of violent crimes in these locations and the subsequent apprehension of otherwise undetected assailants.

