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CUMBRIA
CONSTABULARY
SAFER STRONGER CUMBRIA

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

PRESS RELEASE

Issued at 8.27pm on Wednesday 2 June 2010

Police can confirm that 11 casualties were treated in hospitals around the region following the shooting in West Cumbria this morning, three are described as being in a critical condition, five in a serious condition and three others have been discharged.

Cumbria Constabulary has launched one of the county's largest ever police investigations and our focus is now on gathering as much evidence as possible to build up a clear picture of what happened this morning and why.

This investigation is being headed up by a major incident group working from Police HQ in Penrith. More than 100 CID officers are dedicated to the investigation supported by Uniformed Operational Support officers from across the county. Cumbria Constabulary regularly practices for major incidents and unfortunately today we have had to put that training into action and are providing a coordinated and professional response.

We also have more than thirty Family Liaison Officers who will be working through the night to formally identify the twelve people who were killed and inform immediate family members.

We are appealing for members of the public with friends and family in the West Cumbria area to ensure they are safe and well. If you cannot make contact with relatives, or you are not sure if they are safe, please contact the police helpline number on 0800 096 0095.

Anyone with information that can help us understand Derrick Bird's movements this morning are asked to contact police on 0845 33 00 247.

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