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Bringing to justice those who seek to
exploit vulnerable people

DC Isabella Grotto,
Metropolitan
Police Service

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Collaborative multi-agency approaches: bringing to justice those who seek to exploit vulnerable people

Name: Isabella Grotto

Force: Metropolitan Police Service

Rank: Detective Constable

Degree and University: BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics, University of Durham

Police Now Neighbourhood Programme: 2015-2017

Fluent in both Italian and English, Isabella grew up in Italy before moving to the UK to complete her undergraduate studies at the University of Durham. Following her graduation, she embarked on a career as a financial journalist and was a contributor to the International Political Forum. Having gained some professional experience, Isabella quickly realised she wanted a role where she felt she could have a tangible impact everyday and was attracted to Police Now due to the enhanced opportunities the programme provides to graduates.

Working as a Dedicated Ward Officer in the Borough of Westminster, Isabella was confronted with an array of complex policing challenges. She identified that in order to have a disproportionate impact, she would need to work collaboratively with a range of other agencies.



NEWS

Firearm found as police execute six warrants in Soho 'brothels' for exploiting prostitution and human trafficking

A multi-agency operation saw 18 people arrested on Thursday night including one

Co-ordinating with the council, the National Crime Agency and a series of internal policing departments, Isabella led the first large-scale operation of its kind in recent years to identify, safeguard and remove victims of Human Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and Modern Slavery offences. This work culminated in her leading 100 officers to simultaneously execute six warrants across the ward. As a result, ten women were identified as possible victims and provided with the relevant support, whilst 18 suspects were arrested and one firearm was seized.

Now a Detective Constable in the Specialist Crime Command, Isabella has continued to drive forward progression with tackling hidden yet prevalent issues such as modern slavery. Having put together a training package featuring both local and national external partner agencies, Isabella has successfully equipped over 40 Met officers and streamlined processes for accessing advice and support for those new to handling these types of crime.