

CASE STUDY: MERSEYSIDE

NABIS delivers a unique multi-agency approach to tackling gun crime by providing a national centre of excellence in relation to forensic science, intelligence and knowledge around the, use, supply and manufacture of illegal firearms and ammunition. This case study illustrates how NABIS works to support firearms investigations.

1 A weapon has been recovered in Merseyside during police activity and recorded on the NABIS Database before being sent to one of the NABIS Hubs to be forensically examined.

2 The weapon is identified as a semi-automatic pistol. The latest 3D Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) establishes links between ballistic materials. For example bullets can be linked to both crime scenes and recovered weapons.

3 The IBIS technology links the pistol to a number of incidents in Merseyside including four incidents of causing damage to property and two incidents where shots have been fired and caused injury.

4 This information is used to update the recovery on the NABIS Database. The NABIS Intelligence Cell then reviews the information by looking at people, objects, locations and events which are linked to gun crime incidents and ballistic items both contemporarily and retrospectively.

5 The weapon is subsequently linked to a stolen vehicle, and a second car used by offenders in one of the incidents where there was damage to property.