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## Honours and Awards

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### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St James's Palace, London SW1

12 December 2013

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award of The George Medal and The Queen's Gallantry Medal and for publication in The London Gazette of the names of those shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Bravery.

#### George Medal



PC Ian Andrew DIBELL, Essex Police (deceased).

*For attempting to disarm an armed assailant*

On 9 July 2012 PC Ian Dibell was off duty and at home when he was alerted that a firearm was being discharged nearby. He went to investigate, returning briefly only to pick up his warrant card and mobile telephone. Outside a lone gunman was in pursuit of two of his neighbours who were running away, having already been shot at. The gunman was in a car that had come to a temporary stop and this enabled PC Dibell to intercept the vehicle. He leaned in through an open window and attempted to disarm the gunman. Using both his hands, he attempted to wrestle the revolver from the gunman but was fatally shot when a bullet was discharged. The gunman took his own life the next day. The coroner's verdict was that PC Dibell was killed unlawfully.

PC Dibell intervened in a dangerous situation to protect the public from an armed and dangerous gunman. He acted without hesitation and by returning to his home to collect his warrant card and telephone indicates that he

was preparing to act as a police officer to protect the local community from further harm. He knew that a gunman was shooting at members of the public and must have assumed the gunman was still armed. He could have observed from a safe distance and requested assistance without tackling the gunman. But he believed that innocent lives were at risk (including children returning home from school) and that he had to act quickly and decisively. PC Dibell chose to place himself in a violent, volatile and dangerous situation in order to protect others. He was off duty, unarmed and attempted to disarm and detain a gunman who had already demonstrated a willingness to use his weapon.

#### Queen's Gallantry Medal



PC Claire Louise MURPHY, Greater Manchester Police

*For saving the life of a woman who had fallen into a river*

On 9 June 2012, a 56 year old woman was walking with two children aged 5 and 11 years respectively and their dog along the banks of the River Irwell in Salford. The river at the time was in full flow and the water level higher than normal due to heavy rainfall. One of the children threw the dog's ball into the river and the dog jumped into the river to retrieve it. However, due to the fast flow of the river and a steep vertical drop of some 2.5 metres from the river bank, the dog was unable to get out and became increasingly distressed in its failure to reach safety. The woman leaned on a nearby branch and attempted to rescue her dog but the branch broke and she fell into the river. She too was unable to climb out and reach the safety of the riverbank. Fortunately, she managed to grasp some