

disproportionately low numbers and face less chance than their white counterparts of making it through the recruitment process when they do apply.

The data will put more pressure on police bosses to improve diversity. It comes after the home secretary, Theresa May, attacked Britain's forces for not employing enough black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) officers.

In a speech in October, May said four forces - Cheshire, North Yorkshire, Dyfed-Powys and Durham - did not have a single serving black officer. She also said that 11 forces had no ethnic minorities above the rank of chief inspector.

The newly published data shows that 31 of the UK's 45 territorial police forces appoint a greater proportion of white an they do people

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ber of people from BAME backgrounds, when compared with the ethnic makeups of the areas they serve. The Met, West Midlands and Bedford-

shire police forces were among the least representative - followed by those serv ing the City of London, West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Surrey. In the area covered by the Met, 40.2% of the popula-

tion are from BAME backgrounds. Giles York of the National Police Chiefs Council said that forces better reflecting the communities they served would improve ties with the public, but progress had been slower than he wanted

He said: "The rate of officer recruitment from black and minority ethnic communities has risen from 3.6% in 2006 to 5.5% in 2015. Forces have encouraged more BAME people to join the police.

The singer Natalie Cole, daughter of Nat King Cole, has died aged 65

months ahead with the likelihood of more threats and disruption to major events

The warning came as police in Munich

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By 3.30am, however, the stations had been reopened and by the time the people of Munich were reappearing on the streets in the morning the terror alert had been downgraded to the level it was at before Thursday evening. "The alert, the police operations on the scale we saw last night, have been lifted," Andrä told reporters.

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Events in other European cities on New Year's Eve were either cancelled or scaled down because of security concerns. Analysts say security services are com-

