



**Metropolitan Police Authority**

# Local Policing Summary Harrow

People across London want more information about policing in their local area.

In particular you want to know how policing is delivered locally, how the police are performing and what the priorities for the police are, together with information about your local officers and how to contact them.

This local policing summary aims to do just that. By providing detailed information for each borough, the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) aims to keep you more informed about trends and developments in your area, and reassure you that we, and your local police, listen to what you tell us about the problems in your community.

## Working in partnership to reduce crime

This annual local policing summary is produced by the MPA. Made up of 23 members who scrutinise and support the work of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), our role is to ensure that the views of Londoners are taken into account when deciding policing priorities and that London has the best possible police service to protect our communities.

Although the Authority does not have any responsibility for operational policing, it is responsible for monitoring how well those services are delivered.

It is the Authority's job to ensure the Metropolitan Police perform to the best of their ability and are accountable to the people of London. The MPA also works to make sure local communities have a say in how they are policed.

## Crime is at a ten year low in London

Primarily, the MPA exists to

- hold the Commissioner rigorously to account for improving the operational performance of the MPS
  - transform community engagement to help Londoners secure more responsive policing
  - work with the MPS to achieve cultural change throughout the service so that everyone in London can gain and retain confidence in policing
  - drive the MPS to make the most effective, efficient and cost conscious use of all its resources
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# Metropolitan Police Authority

The MPA sets and monitors the police budget, which includes agreeing the level of council tax that you pay towards policing, and appoints senior officers to the MPS.

The MPA also sets annual priorities and targets for the police and we hold them to account for their performance against these.

The Authority has achieved real benefits for the people of London. We now have record numbers of police officers – over 31,000 - working to keep the capital safe, and London was first to introduce Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), with over 4,000 now providing extra public reassurance and tackling anti-social behaviour in every ward across London.

If you would like more information about the ways in which the MPA works or would like to make any comments, please visit the Authority's website: [www.mpa.gov.uk](http://www.mpa.gov.uk) or contact us on 020 7202 0202.

## Looking back on 2007/08

### Summary performance achievements

The MPS has achieved a number of successes against the objectives and targets set for 2007/08. The majority of the priorities and targets set by the MPA were met, particularly in terms of sanction detections, criminal justice and terrorism.

### Some of the performance achievements between April 2007 and March 2008:

- the overall sanction detection rate reached 25.1% against a 24% target. The MPS continues to show increases year on year;

*(Sanction detection – where an offender has been identified and a legal action / 'sanction' has been taken.)*

- the MPS exceeded its target for offences brought to justice (OBTJ) obtaining 209,107 against a target of 197,200;
- the MPS achieved a reduction of 8.8% for recorded crimes that compare to those surveyed by the British Crime Survey (BCS). This exceeded the reduction target of 5.5%.

### However, some targets were not met, most notably:

- gun enabled crime decreased by 1.4% against a 5% reduction target;
  - public satisfaction across the MPS was 77% against a 82.5% target;
  - the gap between the satisfaction of White victims (78.8%) and Black and Minority Ethnic victims (71.8%) was 7 percentage points. This missed the target of a 5.3 percentage point gap.
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# Setting policing priorities for London

## Policing London Business Plan 2008/11

The three year business plan sets out how the MPS will deliver against the policing priorities of government, the Mayor of London and the people who live and work in London. Targets are set and monitored throughout the year to ensure the MPS continues to reduce crime and increase public safety.

### The strategic priorities in the plan are to:

- make our services more accessible and improve people's experience of their contact with us
- make our neighbourhoods safer through local and city-wide problem solving and partnership working to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and road casualties
- enhance our counter terrorism capacity and capability
- plan for, and effectively police, major events in London and prepare for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games
- reduce serious violence and protect young people
- disrupt criminal networks and reduce the harm caused by drugs

To find out more, log on to the MPA website [www.mpa.gov.uk/reports/policingplans.htm](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/reports/policingplans.htm)

## Have your say on policing in London

Public consultation plays an important part in setting the policing priorities for London.

The MPA is considering the priorities for 2010/11 and would like to know what you think the police in London should be focusing on.

**Have your say** on policing in London by taking part in this year's consultation questionnaire - log on to the MPA website

[www.mpa.gov.uk/reports/policingplans.htm](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/reports/policingplans.htm)

to complete an on-line questionnaire or call 020 7202 0063 to leave your contact details and we will post you a paper copy.



## Harrow: local information



### Message from Borough Commander Richard Walton

“Last year, Harrow achieved most of its targets and continues to be one of the safest boroughs in London, with relatively low levels of crime and better than average detection rates. Successful partnership working has been key to our success.

“A large part of our focus was spent on tackling personal robbery, residential burglary and assaults. Robbery finished at its lowest level for 8 years. Unfortunately we saw an increase in the numbers of residential burglary compared to the previous year, but we finished lower than 2005/06. Violent crime was also reduced to the lowest level for 7 years. Safer Neighbourhoods Team initiatives have contributed to reductions in vehicle crime and general vandalism is now down by over a third from levels four years ago.

Our main priorities this year will be to focus on reducing burglary, serious violence and protecting the public from harm. We will continue to tackle robbery; continue our knife arch operations to reduce knife crime and prevent youth violence through partnership intervention.”

## How did Harrow perform during 07/08?

Robbery of personal property	↓ 259 offences or -35.6%.	Target achieved
Residential burglary	↑ 207 offences or +15.5%.	Target missed
Theft from vehicles	↓ 336 offences or -16.0%.	Target achieved
Theft or taking of vehicles	↓ 8 offences or -1.4%.	Target missed
Theft of pedal cycles remained at the same level.		Target missed
BCS criminal damage	↓ 291 offences or -14.2%.	Target achieved
BCS total	↓ 1088 offences or -11.2%.	Target achieved
Gun enabled crime	↓ 9 offences or -16.1%.	Target achieved

## Looking forward

Borough priorities are set through consultation with the public (Safer Neighbourhoods events, ‘Have your say’ public survey), the police, and other agencies involved in crime reduction in your area.

### Priorities for 2008/09

- 6.2% reduction in youth violence, 5.2% reduction knife crime and serious acquisitive crime
- ensuring gun crime does not increase above the level recorded in 2007/08
- 10.1% reduction in residential burglary, 3% reduction in robbery
- 7.2% reductions in theft of vehicles and 1% reduction in theft from vehicles
- challenging targets for sanction detection rates across specific crime types

## Harrow: local police initiatives



A new dispersal order came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2008 for Harrow Town Centre to help combat anti-social behaviour. The order runs until 31 January 2009. It gives police officers and Police Community Support Officers increased powers to disperse groups and return people under the age of 16 to their homes.

Superintendent Matthew Gardner Harrow's Deputy Borough Commander said: *"This will be particularly useful in addressing problems of anti-social behaviour in and around Harrow bus station. Our officers will use these powers with tact and discretion; we are not specifically targeting young people but we will be briefing all Head Teachers in Harrow to ensure that their students are aware of these enhanced police powers. We have applied this legislation before with success and I am confident that it will make a difference to Harrow town centre over the next six months. Our aim with our partners at Harrow Council, Transport for London and British Transport Police is to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour ...so that Harrow remains a safe place for residents, visitors and commuters alike."*

Councillor Susan Hall, Harrow Council's deputy leader said: *"Harrow is one of the safest London boroughs and the council is committed to keeping it that way."*

## Partnership working: getting involved

### Help us to understand the community's views on policing in your area

The MPA has a statutory duty to consult and engage with the communities of London and to give a voice to local people on policing, priorities, concerns and the future direction of the MPS. Therefore the MPA has established Community Police Engagement Groups (CPEG) in each of the 32 London boroughs (In some London boroughs these groups are known as Community Safety Boards (CSB) or Community Police Consultative Groups (CPCGs)). The primary aims of the CPEGs are to consult with their local police, Safer Neighbourhoods Panels, the MPA, key stakeholders in Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships about strategic policing, including consultation on the annual policing plan development, implementation of Neighbourhood Policing, and crime and disorder reduction.

CPEGs are intended to be representative of the local population, and more particularly those groups that interact with the police in disproportionate numbers. Their activities are not limited to committee work but include active community engagement in neighbourhoods and with local groups.

If you would like to get involved in your local CPEG you can find out more information at [www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships)

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## Partnership working: getting involved

**Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs)** are ordinary members of the local community appointed to make sure that the welfare of people detained in police stations is maintained. They call at police stations unannounced, speak to detainees and write short reports about their visit. Their recommendations can require the police to make improvements in this area.

ICVs play a valuable role in maintaining public confidence in this important aspect of policing. They work with others as part of a local panel and help the MPA, which oversees custody visiting in London, to make sure that detainees are treated appropriately and that their rights are respected.

ICVs must be aged 18 or over. If you would like to find out more about how you can get involved, please visit the MPA website or call freephone 0808 100 1036.

[www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships/icv/recruit.htm](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships/icv/recruit.htm)

### **The MPA Stop and Search Community Monitoring Network (CMN)**

Stop and Search measures are useful in the fight against crime, but they are also controversial powers for many people. The MPA supports Stop and Search Monitoring groups in all 32 boroughs and facilitates a London wide CMN as a means of building and sustaining trust and confidence in the appropriate exercise of Stop and Search powers.

The work of these groups is crucial and they rely on the input and involvement of volunteers. If you would like to get involved in a local or pan-London group to monitor and influence the way Stop and Search is used in London, please call 020 7202 0233 or email

[stopandsearch@mpa.gov.uk](mailto:stopandsearch@mpa.gov.uk) for more information.

## Useful contacts

### **Metropolitan Police Authority**

020 7202 0202

[www.mpa.gov.uk](http://www.mpa.gov.uk)

### **Metropolitan Police Service**

Harrow police stations

020 8423 1212

<http://cms.met.police.uk/met/boroughs/harrow/index>

Safer Neighbourhood info

[www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods/](http://www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods/)

Victim Support—0845 303 0900

[www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

Crimestoppers

0800 555111

[www.crimestoppers-uk.org.uk](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org.uk)

Talk to Frank

(Drug abuse helpline)

0800 776 600

[www.talktoFRANK.com](http://www.talktoFRANK.com)

Anti-social Behaviour Actionline

0845 605 2222

National Domestic Violence helpline

0808 200 0247

[www.crimereduction.gov.uk/dv/dv01.htm](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk/dv/dv01.htm)

**In an emergency always dial 999**