

Met Forward: Monthly progress bulletin (June 2010)



1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a snap shot of the progress being made to deliver Met Forward. Met Forward is the Metropolitan Police Authority's three year strategic mission outlining what it wants the MPS to focus and key areas of development for the Authority's to improve policing in London.

2. Met Forward Project and Workstream Updates

Safer Neighbourhoods

The MPA and MPS recognise that since Safer Neighbourhood Teams were introduced six years ago they have been hugely beneficial, reducing crime and increasing community confidence and satisfaction in policing. The Met Streets strand of Met Forward outlines the Authority's intention to make sure that resources allocated to Safer Neighbourhood are still being deployed effectively and maximum impact is achieved from the investment made.

The Authority has recently completed a Safer Neighbourhoods scoping study focusing on '*what do partners and partner agencies need from Safer Neighbourhoods policing?*'

To review the study in full please go to www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/sop/2010/100701/09/

The Authority will be conducting a formal scrutiny focusing on the structure of Safer Neighbourhoods in the autumn, involving key partners including the MPS, to review the effectiveness of the current model.

MPA Anti Violence Panel

Met Forward outlined its intention to increase the focus on reducing gang related violence in London. The MPS has responded by developing an Anti Violence Strategy, bringing together the various units across the MPS to address this issue and violence more generally. A report was presented to the Strategic and

Operational Policing committee in July outlining the role, terms of reference, equality impact assessment and emerging delivery plan for the MPS Anti Violence Board. The MPA's Anti Violence Oversight Panel is due to meet in October to oversee and review progress.

To review the report in full please go to www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/sop/2010/100701/10/

Town Centre Police Teams

A significant amount of resources have been allocated to Town Centre policing. The Town Centre Programme Board (MPS) is focusing on opportunities to improve engagement and partnership collaboration (with businesses, local authorities, and customers) to embed effective and sustainable problem solving activities into the work of the permanent teams. The five boroughs that don't have permanent town centre teams are expected to increase weekly patrol hours from 224 to 560 from the 1 July.

MPA Civil Liberties Panel: DNA - Londoners have their say

The Metropolitan Police Authority's Civil Liberties Panel held an open meeting at City Hall on the 1 July to hear what individuals and campaigning organisations think about DNA in policing and the use of National DNA Database. The meeting enabled participants, as well as those who could not attend but submitted written evidence, to voice their concerns about the current and future use of DNA.

This is part of a wider review into the use of DNA and will involve discussions with expert witnesses and site visits. The Civil Liberties Panel is eager to hear from as many people as possible and comments can be sent to dna@mpa.gov.uk or write to:

Civil Liberties Panel,
MPA,
10 Dean Farrar Street,
London SW1H 0NY

Please send your comments by 31st August 2010.

London Crime Reduction Board

There is a plethora of organisations, statutory and voluntary, involved in crime and community safety. This landscape is confusing. The Authority set out its intention to establish a single London Crime Reduction Board, led by the MPA, to bring clarity and ensure delivery. We are making good progress in developing a London Crime Reduction Board. Initial stakeholder consultation meetings have now been completed and a feedback report has been produced. Feedback from partners will help inform the next iteration of the structure and shape of the board.

To read the London Crime Reduction board consultation proposals and feedback report refer to www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/lcrb-consultation/

Joint Engagement Meetings

The MPA is actively engaging with boroughs across London on key community safety issues. The first round of meetings focused on either serious youth violence or anti social behaviour and other drivers of public confidence. The current round which started in June focuses on the issues of violence most significant in each borough. So far Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster, Hammersmith and Fulham, Croydon and Southwark have been involved. The remaining boroughs will present to the Authority in the coming year. Additional pan London partners including Health and the Probation Service are now involved in the meetings.

Violence Against Women and Rape

A report was presented on the MPAs overview of MPS domestic violence performance to the June meeting of the Strategic and Operational Policing committee. The report provided Authority members with an overview of MPS recording of and performance on domestic violence, using data from 2009-10 and 2008-09. The data includes numbers of incidents and offences of domestic violence, serious sexual offences within a domestic violence context, sanction detection rates, volume of cautions and numbers of forced marriage cases and 'honour' based violence cases. Diversity data of victim and accused is also explored. The report also looks at performance by exception for each of the 32 Borough Operational Command Units (BOCU), and identifies trends and developments Met-wide.

At that meeting members supported the recommendation that a flag is created for cases of repeat domestic violence so that the MPS can capture accurate data on repeat cases.

The annual thematic meeting of the Domestic and Sexual Violence Board took place on the 14 July. The meeting focused on the MPS front counter, call handling and front line officer response to victims of domestic violence.

To refer to the report presented at June's meetings of the Strategic and Operational Policing Committee refer to www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/sop/2010/100610/08/

Borough Commanders – Job descriptions

Each of London's area and borough commanders is a crucial appointment. More than any other officers they have a huge influence on local engagement and partnership working. Getting this right can drive exceptional performance, and getting it wrong can cause community concerns. The Authority recognised in its succession planning and talent management scrutiny that there were concerns about the lack of continuity in post and the lack of clarity around the roles of the area and borough commander, i.e. what their role entails, how they are expected to do it, how much experience they need, what the links are to pan London responsibilities.

The concerns about continuity have now been addressed with an expectation that borough commanders would normally stay in post for a minimum of three years. Authority members at June meeting of the Human

Resources and Remuneration sub-committee agreed job descriptions for the post of borough and area commanders. To review the report and job descriptions refer to www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/hrremuneration/2010/100617/08/

Crime Mapping and Crime Statistics

MPS mapping capacity continues to evolve. Territorial Policing, the policing command responsible for borough policing now have the ability to identify, repeat locations, hot streets at sub ward level. This has implications for better tasking of resources and improved intelligence gathering and confidence and satisfaction mapping.

To find out more about crime mapping and to get the most current crime statistics refer to www.mpa.gov.uk/statistics/crime-stats/

Finance and Budgets

In a tightening financial environment the Authority is working with the MPS to ensure that greater value for money is achieved and that efficiencies can be delivered through reducing bureaucracy and duplication. As part of the drive to ensuring value for money in policing the Mayor's budget guidance was issued on 11 May. The Authority and Metropolitan Police Service base budget proposals for the three year period 2011 – 2014 need to be submitted to the Mayor by the 30 September for review and consultation.

To refer to the MPAs response and key dates for delivery go to www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/sop/2010/100701-joint/06/

Promoting Met Forward

This summer Chair of the MPA Kit Malthouse held a series of 'breakfast roadshows ' across London to meet a range of stakeholders, including area and borough commanders, Local Authority representatives, and voluntary and community sectors. The aim was to update them on the three major strategies launched by the GLA and MPA to fight crime and improve confidence: 'Met Forward' – the MPA's three year strategic mission for the Met, 'Time for Action' – the Mayor's plan to tackle serious youth violence and 'The Way Forward' – the Mayor's plan to tackle violence against women

The roadshows included question and answer sessions with Kit Malthouse and Assistant Commissioner Ian McPherson or Deputy Assistant Commissioner Lynne Owens, who also attended the roadshows. Most frequently raised issues included: making more use of volunteers in the police 'family', too much duplication in consultation processes and how can we get schools more involved in working with us to reduce youth crime. There are further roadshows planned for the autumn.

Finding out more about Met Forward

To find out more about Met Forward and tell us what you think refer to www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/