

Met Forward: Monthly progress bulletin (July 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 on and key areas of development for the Authority 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 Neighbourhoods 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. This will be discussed further at the next Strategic and Operational Policing Committee on 16 September. Papers for committees will be posted on the MPA website 2 weeks before the committee date.

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

The MPA has asked for further clarity from the MPS following the presentation of the report and they are due to report back to the Authority in October.

The MPA's Anti Violence Oversight Panel is due to meet in October to oversee and review progress.

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 **31 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. Initial stakeholder consultation meetings have now been completed and a feedback report has been produced and positively received by key stakeholders including London Councils, Metropolitan Police Service and the London Probation services.

The Board will be chaired by the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson. The Board's first meeting is due to take place in September. To read a summary of the key issues and feedback arising from the consultation on the proposals for the London Crime Reduction Board please go to;

<http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/lcrb-feedback/>

Race and Faith Inquiry

The Race and Faith inquiry report, commissioned by the Mayor of London was launched in July. The panel lead by Cindy Butts, independent member of the MPA, looked to address concerns about several key issues, including recruitment, the progression of black and minority ethnic candidates through the ranks and the extent to which there is visible leadership around race issues.

Following extensive consultation throughout the course of the inquiry, the report outlines a number of recommendations for both the MPS and MPA.

The Metropolitan Police Authority in partnership with the MPS is currently developing an implementation plan to deliver the inquiry's recommendations. This is due to be presented at the 'Communities Equalities People' committee (CEP) in November.

To download a copy of the Race and Faith Inquiry Report please go to;

<http://www.mpa.gov.uk/scrutinies/racefaith/>

Specials and Volunteers

Specials

Special Constables play a crucial role in the policing of our streets and strengthening the relationship between the police and the public. Met Forward supports the Mayor's commitment to increasing the number of Specials.

In June 2010, 3,125 Special Constables provided an additional 11,300 hours of visible patrolling every week. With a further 516 officers in training and approximately 900 applications received each month we are confident the number of warranted officers patrolling our streets will continue to increase steadily.

Met Volunteers

The MPA is working with the MPS to ensure that the skills and expertise that volunteers bring to the service are used in the most effective way. On the 8 July 2010 meeting of the Communities, Equalities and People Committee, a report was presented which outlined the current strategy to deliver a 'Met Volunteer Programme' (MVP).

To view this report go to; <http://www.mpa.gov.uk/committees/cep/2010/100708/05/>

It is envisaged that by end of autumn 2010 a report recommending how resources drawn from volunteers can be most effectively utilised, will be presented to the Authority.

Getting Involved

- To find out more about Met Forward and tell us what you think refer to;
www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/
- To take part in our online survey on regarding Met Forward and how useful you find the information provided on our webpage, please take part in our short consultation at;
<http://surveys.mpa.gov.uk/v.asp?i=23237kggvk>
- To find out more about committees and information about attending to go
<http://www.mpa.gov.uk/work/>.