



**Explanation of the Boston Box**

**KEY**

<p><b>2.</b> Above-average performance but in decline</p>	<p>Above-average performance and improving</p>	<p><b>1.</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b> Below-average performance and in decline</p>	<p>Below-average performance but improving</p>	<p><b>3.</b></p>

The vertical axis shows performance during the year (in this case number of burglaries per 1000 premises). Overall MPS performance is used to position the horizontal axis and those boroughs performing better than the MPS average are shown in either section 1. or 2. (i.e. above the horizontal axis).

The horizontal axis (trend) shows how current performance compares with performance in the previous year (in this case the variation in % increase/reduction in number of burglaries over the period April to January 2002/3 compared to the same months during 2001/2). Those boroughs whose performance has improved in the last year are shown in either section 1. or 3. (i.e. to the right of the vertical axis.)

In this example, the boston box relates to year to date performance (Apr-Jan 2002/3), with designated Operation Safer Homes boroughs have been highlighted green.

The offences per 1000 premises data have been calculated from both the 1999 household population and stock of businesses and may not fully reflect actual numbers of properties. Furthermore, it is recognised that this may not give fully comparable performance in all cases.