

## London ICV Newsletter

October 2010

### Met Forward—Public Highlight Report

Met Forward, the MPA's three year strategic mission will guide the Metropolitan Police Service in tackling the issues that matter most to Londoners: fighting crime and reducing criminality; increasing confidence in policing; and giving us better value for money.

There is a Public Highlight report available each month, the

purpose of which is to provide a snap shot of the progress being made to deliver Met Forward.

If you would like to see the report you can visit the MPA website <http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/>

, or alternatively if you would like to receive a copy each month please contact your Coordinator who will add you to the email distribution list.

### Catherine Crawford awarded an OBE

Catherine Crawford, the Chief Executive of the MPA was recently honoured with an OBE in her Majesty the Queen's 2010 Birthday Honours List for her services to Policing. Catherine Crawford has been Chief Executive of the MPA since its inauguration in 2000.

MPA Chairman Kit Malthouse said:

"Only those who work closely with Catherine see the true extent of her conscientious and dedicated service to London and the nation.

"On our behalf she carries many burdens and, when called upon, has diligently and selflessly played her part in bringing the capital and its police force through their darkest hours.

"That Her Majesty the Queen has recognised Catherine's achievements today will delight many, many people across the country who she has helped, advised or supported.

"Her contribution to policing has been immense and for that we are all in her debt. Today she has our congratulations and our gratitude for her many years of public service."

### We need your help...

Here at the MPA we are constantly looking at ways we can increase awareness of the ICV Scheme and the work ICVs do and it is something we would like ICVs to get involved in.

Do you have any ideas how we can do this? Do you know of anything happening in your Borough we could join in with? Would your work be interested in having a presentation? Would you be willing to put a poster up in your local GP surgery or Library?

If you have any ideas or would like to get involved please contact your Coordinator.

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## Eastern Region Conference

The Eastern Region ICVA Independent Custody Visiting Association holds an annual conference for visitors in the six counties that make up the region (Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex). This year the conference was hosted by Hertfordshire Police Authority and took place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at County Hall, Hertford.

Edward Wilson, Chairman of the Westminster ICV panel, was invited to talk about visiting arrangements to suspect terrorist detainees at Paddington Green, who are detained under PACE Code H.

Visits to these detainees were of particular interest to the ICVs that attended as there are not many individuals detained in the eastern regions custody suites, and secondly regional forces are having to make preparations to receive such

detainees. Edward provided an enlightening and interesting insight and judging by the number of questions asked his talk was well received and the event was a success.



## ICV profile - Juliette Johnson

My name is Juliette Johnson and I have been an Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) for the London Borough of Enfield for two years as well as being employed for the past nine years as an Operational Manager (Business Support) for Barking and Dagenham's Youth Offending Service.

As part of our service, we provide Appropriate Adults (volunteers) to the Metropolitan Police to help young people between the ages of 10 to 17 years who have come into contact with the Criminal Justice system. Appropriate Adults (AAs) are trained volunteers living within the borough of Barking and Dagenham.

An AA looks after the welfare of the young person while they are detained in custody. It differs from the role of the Independent Custody Visitor, in that it has more

personal involvement. The Youth Offending Service rely on AAs to attend a police station when a parent/carer is unable, unwilling or is a witness to the offence in question.

The AA visits the young person in their cell and has access to the young person's custody record. They are present during a police interview with the young person, when their fingerprints are taken, when their rights are read - and on charge and release, when they explain to the young person what the next stage of the process will be.

The AA then reports back to the Youth Offending Service the outcome of the arrest and any other relevant information relating to their visit, such as court hearing dates or any anomalies that they may have arisen from that visit.

## Refresher training— top tips!

Every newsletter we are going to give top tips on all areas of custody visiting, this edition we are looking at **Categories of Detainees**.

The different categories are:

- PACE
- Suspected Terrorist
- Remand and Sentenced
- Crime (Sentences) Act
- Immigration
- Other – includes lock-out prisoners, Place of Safety (Mental Health Act 1983) and under the Bail Act 1976 pending appearance at court.

Once you know what category a detainee is, you can then set about seeing if their rights and entitlements are being met as these may differ

## Drugs Intervention Programme—Presentation

Bromley and Enfield ICV panels recently had presentations from their local Drugs Intervention Programme's (DIP).

The presentations were given by Drugs Workers who are based in the custody suite of stations in Bromley and Enfield (called Arrest Referral {AR} or DIP workers) and they explained what their role is.

AR's assess people who have been arrested for what is called a trigger offence (a trigger offence being an offence that could be related to drug use, such as burglary) and has tested positive for Class A substances. Under current legislation anyone who is arrested for a trigger offence is

legally required to undergo a drug test, if this is positive, they are required to be assessed by a drugs worker. If they refuse or do not comply at any point they may be charged with a further offence. The AR worker will assess the persons needs and based on this can refer them to various agencies, however, what is available varies greatly from borough to borough, but in general, a person can be referred for substitute prescribing (if they are a heroin user) and referrals to needle exchanges. A person can also access general support and help with day to day stuff such as escorting to appointments, help with forms such as benefit claims and finding a GP from DIP if they choose to engage with them after

the assessment.

For more information you can visit:

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

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

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

[www.nta.nhs.uk](http://www.nta.nhs.uk)

You can also get statistics about drug treatment from:

[www.ndtms.net](http://www.ndtms.net)

## GLA and MPA crime and safety breakfast roadshows

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

Kit Malthouse said:

"Crime and community safety are top priorities for our communities. In the GLA Annual

London Survey, Londoners have once again put crime, safety and policing at the top of their concerns. Our job is to take action to address Londoners' priorities and to help do this we have launched our three major strategies."

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 we can get schools more involved in working with us to reduce youth crime.

Kit concluded:

"A very important part of the roadshows was for us to listen and learn so we can work better together and I was heartened by the feedback from those attending."

"I know that there are real challenges ahead for all of us. But I know there is a real appetite to work collectively, pooling resources and intelligence, and making sure we get real value for money so that we can impact positively on crime and community safety."

There are further roadshows planned for the Autumn.

To find out more about Met Forward and tell us what you think go to [www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward/)

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## Dates for your diary 2010

Several events are still to be confirmed (TBC) but should be around the time stated.

### Initial training:

Saturday 27 November, 10am-4pm at the MPA

### Diversity training:

TBC, 6-9pm at the MPA

### MPA and Chairs meetings:

(provisional) Wednesday 24 November, 6-8.30pm at the MPA

### ICVA National Conference:

Saturday 13 November, Leeds.

### Christmas social:

Monday 13 December, London,

## Welcome to new ICVs!

### Brent

Janet Dolan

### Bexley

Paula Woolhouse

### Bromley

Joanne Rixom

### Camden

Andrew Pereira, James Clarke

### Ealing

Leshmi Kishore

### Hackney

Samuel Bedford

### Harrow

Kerry-Anne Khell, Jackie Llawani

### Hillingdon

Subash Sharma

### Tower Hamlets

Alison Milne, Joseph Holland



Last year, the ICV scheme launched what is believed to be the first ICV page on Facebook, one of the leading social networking sites in the UK. This pioneering venture is part of our commitment and ambition **to raise the profile of the scheme throughout London.**

We have 159 people like the page so far, both ICVs and members of the public, but we hope to see this community of fans grow even more and we encourage you all to become a fan of **ICV London** on **Facebook** and urge you to spread the word to your friends, family and colleagues and hope they in turn do the same.

If you are not a member of Facebook, it's easy to join, just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) to sign up and search for our easy to find page 'ICV London'

## And finally...

### 2009 ICV Scheme Annual Report

This is now available on the MPA website, a hard copy is available on request.

### ICV Handbook

There is a new ICV Handbook and all ICVs should now have a copy. If you do not please contact your Coordinator

### Your ideas

We would like to hear your thoughts on the newsletter and if there is anything you would like to see featured.

### Chairs meeting

Apologies for the need to postpone, new provisional date Wednesday 24 November