

## Local Policing Summary Bexley

### A message from Kit Malthouse

When Boris was elected he promised to refocus the MPA and the Met on fighting crime. Our strategic plan, Met Forward, has done just that, and London has become safer as a result.



Overall crime has fallen by 100,000 offences over the last two years, reductions have been made in violence and murder, and serious acquisitive crime, which includes robbery, has fallen to the lowest levels in ten years.

But it doesn't yet feel better on London's streets. The capital still has serious problems, particularly knife crime. While the number of teenage killings have fallen, there are still too many young people dying or being injured. Each event is a shocking reminder of the mountain we still have to climb.

But there is a huge amount of effort now being brought to bear on these problems. We are making progress and Londoners are responding with increased confidence in local policing and more people feeling safe in their own neighbourhood.

So this policing summary is designed to give you a snapshot of how your local cops are doing and help you make up your own mind. If you have any issues you would like to raise please do let me know by writing or emailing [kit.malthouse@london.gov.uk](mailto:kit.malthouse@london.gov.uk)

There is much still to be done, and because of the economic climate the year ahead will be tough. We will need to work smarter, more efficiently and in closer partnership if we are to reduce crime yet further. With your help and support I know we can have an even better year.

You have my commitment that we will strain every sinew in the pursuit of your safety and that of all Londoners.

**Kit Malthouse**

**Deputy Mayor for Policing and Chair of the Metropolitan Police Authority**

---

# Met Forward: the MPA strategic mission

**MPA**

**Met Forward**

The job of the MPA is to fight crime by getting the best out of the Met. To ensure we make real progress the MPA has introduced Met Forward, a three year strategic mission setting out how we want the Met to develop and perform.

The key purpose of Met Forward is to provide clear direction and support the Met as it works to make London a safer city. Many priorities set out in Met Forward are based on what communities have told us and will ensure that victim care and customer satisfaction are at the core of our shared values.

Above all, increasing the public's confidence in policing is a key priority for Met Forward, working to ensure Londoners feel confident and safe in their neighbourhoods and shared public spaces. Met Forward reflects Londoners' concerns for policing and sets out our ambition to provide strong leadership, open and transparent accountability and effective working with partners and the community.

Making people feel safe is not just down to the Met; many others, including the public, contribute to an atmosphere of order and security and we must work together to deliver success.

Since Boris Johnson became Mayor of London there has been renewed action to tackle crime priorities, focussing on knife crime, safety on public transport, removing dangerous dogs from our streets and tackling gangs and violence in town centres. The MPA has also introduced crime mapping to inform local communities of what is actually happening in their neighbourhoods and overseen changes in leadership at New Scotland Yard to inject new vigour into the Met. Met Forward encapsulates all this work and more, reflecting our goal to make sure the police fight crime effectively.

It is hoped that if we get this right, people who live, work and visit London will:

- understand there is less crime and criminality;
- feel more confident about policing in London; and
- recognise that money is being well spent.

These outcomes might seem obvious at first sight, but they often become lost in the day-to-day activity of running our police force and reacting to events. Constantly reminding ourselves about the objectives of our collective mission will help us focus on what is important. Everything that we do must be directed to these three objectives.

To find out more visit [www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/metforward)

---

# The MPA's work

## **Policing London Business Plan 2010/2013**

The MPA sets the three year business plan that determines out how the MPS will deliver against the policing priorities of the government, the Mayor of London and the people who live and work in the capital. 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:

- \* convince communities we are on their side
- \* crack down on violence
- \* the right service at the right price
- \* reduce crime and catch criminals
- \* deliver security on the streets

For more information please visit [www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/policingplans](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/policingplans)

The MPA and MPS carry out a great deal of community engagement work at ward, borough and pan-London level. When developing and assessing our community engagement work we must ensure it remains relevant to Londoners, so we have recently produced a joint '*Community Engagement Commitment*' which explains how we will improve the way we listen to and respond to the needs of Londoners.

For further information on our '*Community Engagement Commitment*' please contact [review@mpa.gov.uk](mailto:review@mpa.gov.uk) or call 0207 202 0202.

# Looking back on 2009/10

## **Summary performance achievements**

The MPS has achieved a number of successes against the objectives and targets set for 2009/10.

### **Some of the performance achievements between April 2009 and March 2010:**

- a reduction in serious acquisitive crime (residential burglary, robbery and motor vehicle crime) of 3.5% or 6919 fewer crimes, exceeding the 2.5% reduction target;
- public confidence across the MPS was 53.1% against a 51.4 % target;
- a reduction in theft from motor vehicle crime of 7.9% or 6195 fewer crimes, exceeding the 2.5% reduction target.

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

- a target to reduce gun crime by 4.2%: there were 429 more crimes, a 14.2% increase;
  - a target to reduce serious youth violence by 4.7%: there were 105 more crimes, a 1.6% increase;
  - the gap between the satisfaction of White victims (78.8%) and Black and Minority Ethnic victims (73.9%) was 4.9 percentage points: this missed the target of a 3.8 percentage point gap.
-

## Bexley: local information

### Message from Borough Commander Tony Dawson

While the past year was challenging it has been overwhelmingly successful. With the support of people across the borough, and working in partnership with other agencies, including the local authority, we have made significant reductions in some types of crime. There has been an 11% fall in serious acquisitive crime (robbery, domestic burglary and vehicle crime), a 25% drop in serious youth violence, and we have been charging more people for committing hate crime.



However, despite these achievements and the fact that Bexley is one of the safest boroughs in the capital, public confidence in the police and the local authority is still much lower than we would like. This is disappointing, so we will work to improve confidence by keeping residents better informed about ongoing work and our successes, providing reassurance and helping you to relax and feel safe.

Our main objectives in Bexley this year are to reduce the level of crime and anti-social behaviour (despite the fact that, compared to the rest of London, it is very low in the borough), solve more reported crime, and improve public confidence and satisfaction levels in our performance.

## Bexley: local police initiatives

Residents in the Ridley Road area complained about recurrent anti-social activity from youths. Working in partnership with the local authority and housing providers, we initiated a six-month plan to reduce the incidence of unacceptable behaviour.








After consulting with residents, we enforced a dispersal zone and supported activities to divert young people from hanging about aimlessly and encourage them to learn new skills. The local authority and housing provider worked with us on these projects and invested in youth workers and the redesign of street furniture.

As a result, we have experienced a dramatic fall in youth-related anti-social behaviour to such an extent that we have had virtually no reported incidents. Even more importantly, local residents are enjoying a greatly improved quality of life as a direct result.

Moving on, we will review what we have learned from this initiative and use the most effective options in other parts of the borough where we have the support of residents to challenge anti-social behaviour.

---

## How did Bexley perform during 2009/10?

Residential burglary		120 offences or -8.4%	<b>Target achieved</b>
Total robbery		89 offences or -23.7%	<b>Target achieved</b>
Theft from vehicles		274 offences or -16.6%	<b>Target achieved</b>
Theft or taking of vehicles		3 offences or -0.4%	<b>Target missed</b>
Serious youth violence		30 offences or -25.6%	<b>Target achieved</b>
Knife crime		57 offences or -29.5%	<b>Target achieved</b>
Gun crime		15 offences or -30.0%	<b>Target achieved</b>

## 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 2010/11

- 1.4% reduction in serious acquisitive crime
  - 2.5% reduction in most serious violence, 1.0% reduction in serious youth violence
  - 3.4% reduction in gun crime, 5.0% reduction in knife crime
  - challenging targets for sanction detection rates across specific crime types.
-

# Have your say on policing in London

## How you can help to set London's policing priorities

Public consultation plays an important part in setting the annual policing priorities for London and we want to encourage more and more Londoners to participate. All organisations do best when they listen to the people they serve and the police are no different.

Participating in this annual consultation is a vital tool to help restore the vital link between our local communities and their police service.

**Have your say** on policing in London by logging on to the MPA website:

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

This year we also want to hear from more members of London's business communities. If you own or work in a business in London please log on to:

[www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/policingplans/haveyoursay-businesses](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/publications/policingplans/haveyoursay-businesses)

Alternatively, please call 020 7202 0063 to receive a paper version or to participate in a telephone questionnaire.



# Partnership working: CPEGs

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

The MPA has a duty to consult and engage with London's communities and give a voice to local people on policing priorities, their concerns and the future direction of the Met. To facilitate this, Community Police Engagement Groups (CPEGs) - in some areas known as Community Safety Boards or Community Police Consultative Groups - exist in each borough.

The primary aims of CPEGs are to consult with local police, Safer Neighbourhoods Panels, the MPA and key stakeholders in Community Safety Partnerships about strategic policing. This can include consultation on developing the annual policing plan, the implementation of neighbourhood policing, and crime and disorder reduction. Their activities also include active community engagement in neighbourhoods and with local groups.

CPEGs are intended to be representative of the local population and we would particularly like to encourage greater representation from across the diverse range of black and minority ethnic communities, young people, the disabled community and from local businesses and chambers of commerce.

If you would like to get your voice heard, get involved in your local CPEG. Visit our website for more information at [www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships](http://www.mpa.gov.uk/partnerships)

## Useful contacts

### Metropolitan Police Authority

tel: 020 7202 0202

Minicom: 020 7202 0173

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

### Metropolitan Police Service

Bexley police stations

tel: 0300 123 1212

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

Safer Neighbourhoods information

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

Victim Support

tel: 0845 303 0900

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

Crimestoppers

tel: 0800 555111

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

Talk to Frank (Drug abuse helpline)

tel: 0800 776 600

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

National Domestic Violence helpline

tel: 0808 200 0247

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

**In an emergency always dial 999**  
**Non-emergency dial 0300 123 1212**