Online crime: impact tracker



Police and Crime Committee

The Committee carried out a review of the Met's approach to tackling online theft and fraud in 2014. A working group, chaired by Roger Evans AM, carried out the investigation on the Committee's behalf and the Committee published its report in March 2015.

The table below provides a summary of the impact of each of the recommendations and the extent to which they have been accepted by MOPAC and the Met using RAG (red, amber or green) status. RAG status provides a performance judgment: in this instance, red means the recommendation has not been accepted; amber means there has been some progress against the recommendation; and green means the recommendation has been implemented or substantively accepted.

Committee's recommendation	Response	Progress
Recommendation 1:	MOPAC says it is working with Operation Falcon from a crime	This recommendation has been substantially
In the next year, MOPAC should	prevention and target hardening viewpoint.	accepted: MOPAC will take steps to get a
commission criminologists and/or	MOPAC will work with the Operation Falcon team seconded	better understanding of the profiles of
other academics to work with the Met	to the London Digital Security Centre (LDSC) to assess	offenders based in London.
to develop profiles of the different	whether there are particular archetypes of online offenders	
types of perpetrators of online crime	as seen through those prosecuted. There are currently eight	
that are based in London, in order to	Met Cyber Protect officers seconded into the LDSC team.	
help the Met to tailor its response. The	The LDSC will work with MOPAC's Evidence and Insight team	
research should focus on low-level,	of social researchers to assess whether there are any trends	
high-volume online crimes; it should	in offending patterns, for example using Police national	
also pay particular attention to the	computer data.	
extent to which perpetrators are		
currently involved in other forms of		
offending, or have been in the past.		
Recommendation 2:	The Minister for Crime Prevention, in her response to the	There is some progress against this
The Office for National Statistics	Committee's report, stated that she agreed there is more to	recommendation: both the Minister and the
should introduce specific questions	do to ensure that crime statistics properly capture online	ONS accepted that we to ensure online
into the Crime Survey for England and	crime.	crimes are capture in the statistics.
Wales to measure online victimisation.	John Flatley, Head of Crime Statistics and Analysis at the	It is yet to be seen, however, whether the



Committee's recommendation	Response	Progress
It should include these offences in the	Office for National Statistics, also responded to the	Crime Survey's headline results will include
Crime Survey's headline results from	Committee's report. He said that the ONS has established a	online crimes such as cyber-fraud in the
2016-17 onwards.	project to explore the feasibility of covering fraud and cyber-	future.
	crime in the main Crime Survey in the future.	
Recommendation 3:	MOPAC says its analysts are assessing whether the new	This recommendation has been accepted.
The Mayor's Office for Policing and	MyVoice survey of victims can include members of the public,	
Crime should develop specific	and not just businesses.	
questions to capture individuals'	The Business Attitude Survey (BAS) asks businesses about	
online victimisation in London, with a	online victimisation. It is in its second wave of interviews.	
view to introducing them into its	MOPAC will publish its BAS results on the Business crime	
quarterly Public Attitudes Surveys	page of the MOPAC website.	
from 2016-17 onwards. In addition,	The PAS now includes questions about online	
MOPAC should extend its Business	crime/victimisation.	
Attitudes Survey to measure online		
victimisation among London's		
businesses. It should publish the		
headline results from each survey on		
the London Datastore.		
Recommendation 4:	MOPAC says it is working through the LDSC with a number of	There is some progress against this
The Mayor, in partnership with the	partners on a series of masterclass briefings for businesses	recommendation: MOPAC is attempting to
City of London Police and other key	on cyber-crime and fraud.	raise awareness about Action Fraud among
stakeholders, should lead a London-	The first was held on 26 May in City Hall, opened by the	businesses.
wide campaign during 2015-16 to draw	Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and London Chairman	However, MOPAC's response did not explain
attention to the threat of online crime	of the Federation of Small Businesses, with talks from Sophos	what it is doing to raise awareness among
and raise awareness of Action Fraud to	and City of London Police, who are promoting Action Fraud	the public. And it not comment on whether it
improve reporting of crime by	and the law enforcement response to fraud in these	would use the Mayor to raise the profile of



Committee's recommendation	Response	Progress
individuals and businesses.	presentations through the LDSC.	its campaign.
	The LDSC is also actively engaged with Barclays and the Royal Bank of Scotland and presenting at their events for SMEs, and are promoting Action Fraud there too.	
Recommendation 5: MOPAC should help Safer Neighbourhood Boards (SNBs) to raise awareness about online crime and the role of Action Fraud. It should provide SNBs with borough-level fraud and online crime statistics to help them to identify vulnerable groups in their area. To begin with, MOPAC should pilot events at meetings for two Safer Neighbourhood Boards. It should then collect findings from these meetings and feed these back to all other boards	MOPAC says it will take the activity of the LDSC to SNBs after its initial tranche of roadshows are complete later in 2015. LDSC will work on a programme of engagement on digital issues through the SNBs.	This recommendation has been substantially accepted: MOPAC intends to engage with SNBs as the Committee suggested.
across London by the end of 2015-16. Recommendation 6: To help the Met to avoid viewing cyber-crime in isolation, MOPAC should commit that its future	MOPAC says it is already considering how the digital environment can enable stalking and harrassment. These risks have been written into the Hate Crime Strategy. MOPAC ensures that all its strategies cover the online nature	This recommendation has been accepted.
strategies across all themes will directly address pertinent internet risks.	of crime and abuse.	
Recommendation 7:	The Commissioner, in his formal response to the report, said	This recommendation has been substantially



Committee's recommendation	Response	Progress
Before the Met expands the FALCON	that FALCON has embarked on a Police Staff Investigator	accepted: the Met recognises that civilian
command to phase three, it should	programme to explore the Met's ability to recruit and retain	staff, as well as, police officers will be an
assess whether it would be more	non-warranted staff, enabling them to work alongside	important resource to help tackle online
beneficial to operate with a higher	detectives to combat cyber-crime. Currently nine staff	theft and fraud.
proportion of expert civilian staff	members are undertaking the programme.	
relative to warranted officers.		
Recommendation 8:	In its response, MOPAC stated that it already hears about the	This recommendation has been accepted in
MOPAC should develop and publish an	impact of fraud on businesses through its Business Crime	part: MOPAC says it is launching a fraud
online crime performance dashboard	Change Board which the Deputy Mayor for Policing and	dashboard.
on a quarterly basis from 2016-17	Crime chairs jointly with the Deputy Commissioner, including	
onwards. Once the data is available,	the number of positive outcomes of National Fraud	
the dashboard should include the	Investigation Bureau referrals from Operation Falcon.	
headline levels of online victimisation		
reported in its public and business	MOPAC is launching a fraud dashboard after the July Business	
attitudes surveys. The dashboard	Crime Change Board. This is about positive outcomes of fraud	
should also include the number of	reports from Action Fraud.	
referrals that the Met receives through		
Action Fraud, as well as the proportion		
of positive and negative outcomes.		
And it should include suitable		
performance indicators that		
demonstrate the work that the Met is		
doing to prevent online crime and		
disrupt cyber-criminals.		
Recommendation 9:	The Commissioner, in his formal response to the report,	This recommendation has been accepted in
The Met should identify a senior	stated that he has appointed Commander Duncan Ball to be	full.



Committee's recommendation	Response	Progress
ranking officer (ACPO level), to be	the ACPO lead for mainstreaming cyber-crime across the	
responsible for mainstreaming cyber-	Met.	
crime across the whole of the force.		
Recommendation 10	The Commissioner, in his formal response to the report,	This recommendation has been accepted in
In August 2015, once the FALCON	explained that the Met has taken steps to establish informal	part: the Met is taking some steps to help to
command has been operating for a	support outside of the command, including a formalised	integrate the FALCON command with the rest
year, the Met should extend FALCON's	support mechanism between FALCON Volume Fraud Teams	of the organisation.
buddying system outside of the	and borough teams. This will include "investigation surgeries"	
command. For example, police officers	where advice on specific enquiries outside of FALCON's remit	
and staff based in borough teams	can be sought. The response did not include a specific	
could be buddied with those based in	commitment to introduce a buddying system, however.	
FALCON's Volume Fraud Teams.		
Recommendation 11	The Commissioner, in his formal response to the report,	This recommendation has been accepted.
The Met should set a deadline for when	stated that the Met expects all staff that have contact with	
it wants all staff with public contact	the public and/or investigative duties to have undertaken	
and/or investigative duties to have	relevant cyber-crime training.	
undertaken the cyber-crime e-learning		
programme. It should also assess whether it needs to extend Mainstream		
Cyber-Crime training to officers and		
staff outside of the FALCON command		
and, if so, by when.		