

Date: Wednesday 14 January 2015  
Location: The Chamber, City Hall  
Hearing: MOPAC Challenge - Quarterly Performance

Start time: 10:00am  
Finish time: 11:30am

**Members:**

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London (Chair)  
Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime  
Jonathon Glanz, MOPAC Challenge Member  
Steve O'Connell, MOPAC Challenge Member  
Keith Prince, MOPAC Challenge Member

**Officer Attending:**  
Helen Bailey (MOPAC Chief Operating Officer)

**Guests:**  
Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner)  
Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner)  
Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing)  
Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary)

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Welcome to the MOPAC Challenge, the latest edition. We are going to have a discussion in a minute, when the Commissioner arrives, about counter-terrorism and the events in Paris, but first of all, I think we should do the dashboard, and I am going to ask Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, to take us through it. Stephen.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Well, let us go through these slides. (Slide 1) This particular dashboard will give us a flavour of where the boroughs sit against the target of the overall 20% reduction in crime. I can't see this, Boris, obviously, myself, but I think the blobs represent, the bigger the blob, the better it is, I would have thought. If you remember, over time, the London blob, as a proportion of the national crime reduction curve, grew, effectively. So we were driving down the nation's reduction in crime, effectively. So that is a great place to --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Where is your blob, in this ...?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I do not know; this is the blob over time, but we do not have to really go into that. What is the latest blob picture on the crime reduction?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** As a proportion of the overall national fall in crime, London is, allowing for proportionality --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Without London's reduction, it is fair to say, and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) can validate this, crime would be rising?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** That is true. He is right.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Yes.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** You know, I want to hear that: without London's reductions in crime, crime in this country would be rising. Sensational fact; I did not know that; right.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** This is also an opportunity, if we go to the second page, look where we are in London; perhaps we could go to the second page in the dashboard. (Slide 2) This is now obviously your remit, Mayor, and we are now looking at the MOPAC 7 rolling 12-month performance. It is fair to say that, overall, it is a stellar performance from the Metropolitan Police Service, with the exception of Violence with Injury (VWI); which you're going to look into in a bit more detail later. But burglary reductions, which form almost a quarter of all these volume crimes, that has reduced below the 20% reduction target, with the exception of, I believe it is Hackney and Bexley, where they are reporting an increase in offences. We are also seeing excellent performance in driving down robbery, theft from a motor vehicle, and theft from a person, from the baseline.

We have some issues around criminal damage, which is a marker for Anti-Social Behaviour, and also theft of the motor vehicle offences. That is --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sorry -- Bernard and Craig. No, do not worry. Was it the Jubilee line, or was it the ...?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** It was the traffic ... My apologies.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** OK, well welcome you both; we thought you were stuck on the Jubilee line, in which case I was going to grovel to you. We have got to the point of the argument that we are talking about the dashboard, and Stephen has made a very interesting point that the reduction in crime being achieved in London is a very significant proportion of the overall reduction in the country. So much so that, actually, crime would not be falling in the UK were it not for the reductions in crime in London, which is something I personally --

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** No, in England and Wales.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** In England and Wales? Sorry --

(Overspeaking)

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** HMIC (Overspeaking) In England and Wales, crime would not be falling were it not for the reductions in -- which is fascinating. And then Stephen was saying a little bit about the various crime types on the MOPAC 7 and we are doing there.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Yes. We have just come to the point where I think there is a roll call of honour, here, in terms of the boroughs. Having just seen some stellar performances; the Head of Territorial Policing, Helen King. Assistant Commissioner, I have to say that I do not see this, that all boroughs are equal, when it comes to crime reduction. So I've ranked this according to the level of crime reduction. I want to pay tribute to Waltham Forrest where we are seeing stellar levels of confidence for a very diverse borough, but a 28% reduction since baseline in this high-impact, high-volume crimes. Brent, 27%, Hounslow 27%. My old borough, Hammersmith and Fulham, 27% reduction in crime over a quarter. The shine has come off the ball a little bit in Hammersmith and Fulham.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I cannot say I am surprised, but there you go.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** No. Ealing, 26%. Kingston, 25%, that is also had its problems in the town centre. Redbridge, 25%. Harrow, 25%. Lewisham, which is a high-volume borough, 24%. Camden, 23%. Barnet, very high-volume borough for burglary, 22% reduction. Barking and Dagenham, 22% reduction. Croydon, your place, Steve, 21% reduction. Merton, 21% reduction. Southwark, where we are today, 20% reduction, it has hit the target.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sorry, Stephen, I do not have these figures; I do not have this page in my presentation. Could I just ask, this is over what period?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** We have taken a baseline of March 2012, to pick a date at random, where we set the Challenge for a 20% reduction.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Year Zero, as it is now known. The year of anno Greenhalgh; OK.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Lambeth, and Hillingdon, 20%.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sorry. Lambeth and Hillingdon have achieved 20%.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Well, that means that 17 boroughs have achieved a substantial cut in crime. But there are 32, which means that, broadly speaking, half have achieved it and half have not. This means there is a game of two halves; there are other boroughs that are holding us back, and therefore the job of policing London is always going to be one where you get people that are the outriders, and are hitting the target, and the ones that are not.

On a serious note, I am not the expert in looking at this, but in order for them to win, in order to cut crime, these nasty, victim-based crimes, they have to tackle burglary. It is a quarter of MOPAC 7 offences, and it is fair to say every single one of these boroughs that has hit their target has done something about burglary; which has meant they've done something about preventing it from happening in the first place. But that is where we are.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Thank you very much. First of all, I think these are extraordinary figures, in themselves; every single borough, notwithstanding what you say about some being better than others, every single borough seems to have achieved a reduction in burglary since 2012, and some of them very substantial reductions in burglary. Burglary is obviously a crime that very seriously affects people's morale; it is a devastating thing when it happens to you and your household. This seems to me a very positive and encouraging development. I congratulate the Metropolitan Police Service on what they are doing to prevent against burglary. I must say that I would like to know more about how it is being achieved, and what we can learn about the boroughs where it is working and the boroughs where it is not working. These are very considerable reductions in a very nasty crime, and I would love to know more about how it is being achieved. Commissioner?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think that, broadly, there are two ways. One is that there has been an awful lot of work done to try and prevent people becoming victims in the first place; so, better to prevent it than to deal with the consequences.

So a lot of work around SmartWater usage. Where the is a crime that happens; and we know that; the burglar will often go back to that same area.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** If we warn the adjacent neighbours then they can take preventative action should that burglar come back; because they obviously know how to get into that type of house. So that has been a big benefit.

I think, later in the pack, there is information showing that the overall detection rate is down, actually the primary detection rate, and I can explain the difference if you would like, has actually gone up. So the number of people who we have caught as a burglar, and have charged or cautioned, has actually increased, but, as HMIC might --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Is this the sanction detection rate?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes. There is primary and secondary detections. So primary is when we catch them, we charge them, and we put them before a court, or they accept a police caution; everybody is very clear that is a very definite detection. There is a second level, which is called 'TIC'. TIC means 'Taken into consideration', and there is two forms of those. One, how it can be taken into consideration at a court; so you are charged with an offence, you appear for sentence, and you admit that committed other offences, and it is taken into consideration when sentence is achieved.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I was always a bit suspicious about those, just from memory.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes, so am I, which is why --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Is not that the ones where we say to them, "Would you like to admit all these ones, and we'll reduce your ..."?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes. What I was going to explain was that here is another form, as well, which is that, having been convicted, you can be visited in prison, and again admit the offences for which you have not been charged, and have them what is called 'written off'. Now, there is a benefit for you as an offender, because you will not later be charged. There is a benefit for the victim; at least they know the person who has committed their offence. But, for me, they have always had less value; they have a value, but I think it is less of a value than the one where we say, "There is enough evidence; we are going to charge you with that offence".

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** But it has had a value over the years, but, for me, we have invested, at times, too much attention to the secondary detection, the one we are talking about --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** That is why it is called 'secondary detection'.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** -- and not the primary ones. It is a disproportionate effect. So for us, what we have done is concentrate on the primary charging. So we have seen the primary charging increase, but the secondary charging decreasing, because

there have been some really problems in the past years where those secondary figures, frankly, have not been accurate, at best, and have been inflated.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We get compliant prisoners; we get people who are prepared to write things off which they have not always done, but, "Let's just get rid of these offences", because they know there is no consequence to doing it.

They have always had the possibility, after people have been in prison, of what is called a 'gate arrest'. So as you complete your sentence, we might say, "Right, we have found some more DNA at a further burglary after you have been sentenced. We'll come and find you at the end of your prison sentence, and we'll charge you again". Now, the way the criminal justice system thinks, this is a bit of a waste of time, because they have already served a sentence; why go through all this panoply when really they are just a burglar?

So that has been the justification for the secondaries in the past. They had a value, and less of one. So we have invested a lot of time in improving the primary detection, is my principal point.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** That is very interesting, but the blue bars, there, those indicate neither primary nor secondary detection, they just indicate sanction detections? They just show how many offences?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** You asked the question, "What is reducing them?" I think there are two things. One is more prevention work; and number two is some improved detections around the burglars. A burglar does not commit one burglary.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** No.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Volume burglars.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** They are at it for a while. You may get one charge, but probably there are many offences. Whether you are detect them, the benefit of the other detection, I think is a debate. I think those two things have helped; but there is no doubt that, over the years, is that design has helped. So that we know that, where people have burglar alarms, they do not get burgled, on the whole. It is like smoke alarms; smoke alarms have been effective in reducing --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Is that really true?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Burglar alarms work, yes, on the whole. You get the kid who will give it a go, but, generally, people to not attack victims who have a burglar alarm in, it is a risk. They decrease their risk by tackling sites which do not appear to have a burglar alarm. This is why we are always trying to encourage people to fit the alarms. Those are the things, over the years, and of course design of windows, doors, have all improved over the years, which makes it physically harder.

Frankly, they have also seen that there are alternative methods of getting money which are easier, less risky, and they also know that, as you say, it is a serious crime; they do not want to run the risk of going to prison, which is what broadly will happen to them as of now.

So they may steal a car; as we are coming on to later. As we have seen, mobile phone theft went through the roof.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Went through the roof, right.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** It is lower-risk, and at least as much value in terms of the benefit they were getting from it. I think a lot of things are going into it, and I am sure the HMIC would say, you see around the country generally, burglary, on the whole, is coming down.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Is that right, Steve?

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** That is right; but in the most similar group, the Metropolitan area is reducing faster than the other members of the most similar group. In fact, it has gone from the highest level of crime per 1,000 population, to the second lowest in its group, out of the four. So it is actually making faster progress than any other forces.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Which group, sorry?

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** Well, this is the group that we measure we call it a most similar group, it is the other metropolitan areas; they are difficult to measure, because they are much smaller, but, nevertheless, they are our benchmark.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Is this the statistic that is right, that now, the burglary levels in London are the lowest levels since 1974?

Several male speakers: Yes.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** That is extraordinary.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Do you think we have a chance of getting that in the Evening Standard?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** No. But that is an extraordinary figure, the very fact that we are growing at the rate of a London borough every three years, and the burglary rate is the lowest level it has been since 1974; a really nasty crime.

**Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner):** Some of the work, I know we spoke about it before, but the predictive policing work which is informing the patrols, burglary is one of those crimes that responds particularly well to that predictive policing work. So we talk about where people are going to patrol, and put people in specific areas. Those sorts of things, I think, taken overall, when you look at many of the figures we could look at, the trend and the real fall in

burglary does show that a lot of the work that Helen, Krishna and others spoke about, in terms of that sort of industrialising of the response to it, is having a sustained effect.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Well in areas like Brent, I know they have piloted traceable liquids.

**Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner):** Yes.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** In Hounslow, electronic tagging of their volume offenders. Are some of these things being rolled out, now?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** There is some great innovative work going on. The tagging is still in the very early stages for evaluation. With the traceable liquids, as you are aware, we have been going through the contract process to buy them in. That will go live from April this year with the aim of one in seven of all homes in London having that coverage. When we did the pilot for that, in the target areas where traceable liquids were rolled out, we had a 47% reduction in burglaries.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** You halved burglary? So what is one in seven in terms of number of homes? What about numbers, rather than just as a proportion? It is a lot of homes, isn't it?

**Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner):** I cannot remember the figure for households for London, I do not remember the base figure, but if just target one in seven, it is a very, very large coverage. Couple that with the desire to increase Neighbourhood Watch, and a number of those things, which we know work, these should be long-term sustainable.

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** I thought the number of households that we were going to try and get into was 400,000?

**Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner):** Yes.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** So this is one in seven households ...?

**Craig Mackey (MPS Deputy Commissioner):** To use the traceable liquids to property mark.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I am sorry, yes, absolutely.

(Overspeaking)

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes. No, no. OK, well, look, that is a very good discussion on burglary. Do you want to keep going, now, Stephen?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I think we have finished; I think we have got the message that burglary is great. The violence and injury figures we do want to go down, but the presentation really draws out the key points, as opposed to looking at the dashboards.



**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** So, clearly, something I want to add around burglaries, you could see on the chart that was there previously, we do have a very clear seasonal trend; every year, burglaries over the winter period go up by about 25%. Again, under the banner of Operation Bumblebee, which I think most people have heard of, we have run a very sustained campaign over these winter months. So, although it has gone up, it has not gone up as much as it would have done in previous years. We do need the public to play their part in helping us to reduce this crime.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Thank you very much. Now, the presentation on Violence with Injury. These are the areas which are where we need to do better. Essentially, the first point is that, in absolute terms, the number of recorded offences is going up; it is above 11,000; 11,672 offences versus 2013. This is a lot of forms, as I understand, a lot of forms of violence. You have street-based violence, and you have Domestic Abuse (DA) Violence with Injury; so that is violence that takes place in the home that is beyond the category of a common assault, and falls into the Violence with Injury category. Also, 72% of non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury victims across London are residents within the offence location. That shows that, also, this is local, when it is street-based violence. We are dealing with a local problem. But, the numbers are going the right way, I think we will all admit.

The other issue that we have in this presentation is the rise in serious youth violence, and that is up 9%. The question I have is; and then really to ask the others to comment on the other slides; but can we just deal with those two issues around violence? Is there any link between youth violence and the overall trends in violence? What is the age of the people that typically committed the volume offences? We do not want to win when it comes to property crime, and see violence rise, do we, Mayor?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** No.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes, I think probably now we will talk in detail about some of the things that we have been doing around the problem, but I will probably talk a bit about the answers to what we think the problem is.

We know that there has been an increase in domestic violence reporting and recording. Now, as you know, we excluded this figure from the reductions we were expecting, on the grounds we want people to report domestic violence, and not be worried about the consequences. That said, we have seen an increase, and what we are always trying to do is to make sure that that increase is it both ways? Is it a real increase, or is it an increase in confidence? However, we have certainly seen some increase in that.

We are having a look to see what we can do, and probably Helen is could talk about the operation we are running, which I think is Operation Dauntless, to try and improve the way that we deal with domestic violence victims; we have got a three-strand strategy. So that is one very special area; it is a very serious crime, but it also probably needs a different approach. It usually happens in the home; not always; and we want to not worry about the rising levels of reporting, but we always want to worry about the underlying level of it; but probably that is a different category.

We had an issue, and the HMIC carried out an inspection within the last 12 to 18 months, across the country, and of course in the Metropolitan Police Service, which showed that we were not recording properly some of our offences; so we went away and did something about that. That has led to better reporting; or better recording; and that has accounted for some of the changes that we have seen.

Now, I do not think we can rely on that entirely, but I think it is certainly true, because when we have looked at the number of reports in our command and control system, it almost matches the number of increase in violence reports that we have got as crime records. One of the things that the HMIC drew to our attention was that we were getting reports of violence, but by the time that it got to the crime recording it looked like some of them had dropped off the list. There were various reasons for that, but it was not good enough that we were getting a report of violence and then we would never get a final report.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Why was that? So we have gone away and looked at that, and now we think we have almost filled that gap. It will never be a perfect system; we have made an awful lot of effort to remedy what was quite a significant problem.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** So was there some historic under-reporting of violence, is that right? Under-recording?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** There will be some under-reporting. The 5 million calls we get a year, ish, some of them are about violence; somebody rings up and says they have been thumped, or whatever. But, by the time it got to how that incident was written up, it was not always recorded as a crime. Now, there can be good reasons for that. Sometimes, people have changed their mind; when you look into it, it is not they had a terrible injury, it was a very minor thing and it may not ever have been it reached the crime level; it was a shove and push and perhaps it should not be recorded. But there were too many times when it should have been recorded as a crime, and had not been. We have gone away and done something about that; but the consequence is, we are seeing increased numbers. I think that accounts for some of it.

The best reassurance that we have that that is true is, it is a recording issue in part, is that we have got some data from London Ambulance Service which shows that they see, actually, a reduction in the violence incidents they have attended during the same period we recorded more crimes. So I think, to some extent, we should take some benefit from that.

All that said, we do think we have seen an increase in the amount of violent crime in public areas, and therefore, if you remember when we launched Operation Equinox, which was probably about two, three months ago, it may be helpful for Helen to tell us why we picked the areas we have picked, and what we have done in those areas. Essentially, what we have looked at is the aggravating factor of alcohol; and where alcohol is in play, quite often, we got more violence. The control of the sale and the consumption of alcohol is an important impact. One, how do we regulate it? Also, how do others? Helen.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Thank you.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Of course. Because we have seen rises across London, every single Borough is involved in Operation Equinox, and they all have their own action plan, and are reporting on a monthly basis into a performance meeting particularly around that. Where we have particularly concentrated is the top 30 wards where we have got the biggest numbers of violent crime. Some of those, when we look at the data for the 12 weeks before Operation Equinox started and the 12 weeks since, we have seen some improvements which are promising.

For instance, St James's ward in Westminster, which is the top in terms of volume, we have seen a 26% fall in Violence with Injury over that period through the operation and since it has been -

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** That is since November, October?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** That is Leicester Square? Is that where you are doing all the podium stuff, and all these, yes?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Yes. So we have our impact zone officers there. But we are also doing a lot of work with licensed premises, and our licensing activity includes the local licensing team, but we also have the central licensing team with a huge amount of expertise in some of the really quite complex legislation that is in place, and using that. So it is partly about patrols. It is also about working with the likes of door staff, taxi drivers, and licensed premises visits. What we are doing is sharing the expertise. I am just looking for some of my figures. We have also extended the periods that we are using dispersal zones. So previously during the week; but over the Christmas weeks, through the week. The tone is very much about the officers on the ground setting the tone early, so as you come into, in this case, St James's, but in other boroughs, as you come into a night-time economy area, there are officers there, in effect greeting and meeting you, setting the expectations of behaviour. If you are already drunk, you are not likely to get into premises, and some of our licensed premises are now using breathalyser-type devices.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Really?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** If you have failed that, you cannot get in. We know about SCANNET, and really pushing that; that is what has made a big impact in Kingston.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** SCANNET is a system of - I have visited it with Glen Tunstall, and seen it in a nightclub where there had been a murder - actually, it is a way of gating and stopping people who have got a history of causing violence from being able to enter the premises. So the door staff effectively will scan people if they go in and use. So these kind of high-volume night establishments, it is a good way of ensuring that they have people in there that are going to behave themselves, essentially. It works quite well, does it not?

Then you use intelligence between all the different clubs to stop the person going in anywhere else.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Exactly. Other areas where we have had success, Fairfield ward in Croydon; 23 fewer offences in those 12 week periods, which is a 19% drop. For instance, by serving notices on a number of premises, I think four in that ward, that are coming up for review: Yates's Wine Lodge because of some irregularities that we picked up with their licenses. They actually had to close from 10 pm on Christmas Eve right through till 4 January, which obviously was a cost to them, but that helped in our reduction of violent crime.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** In one ward, or across London?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** In one particular premises in this ward in Croydon.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** In Croydon, OK.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** It is just an example of how you are using the licensing powers.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** OK, right.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** We look to licensing to drive down violent crime.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Exactly.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** The problem premises, essentially.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yates's Wine Lodge was not closed down generally over that period?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** No, not over the whole of London. Fairfield are doing something with licensees that a number of our town-centre economies are doing, which is "Barred from one, barred from all". So if you are barred from one licensed premises, the details are then circulated so that you cannot just choose to go somewhere else.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I thought it was in Shepherd's Bush? Really, it is a good way where they all get together and they share intelligence.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes, it basically works well in the town centre.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** It is called 'Pub Watch'

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Exactly. Noel Park ward in Haringey has seen a 33% reduction within some areas where the activity that has taken place, on the ground by officers, but also with responsible licensees in clamping down on those who are not responsible, is making that difference.

In terms of licensed premises, we have now done full visits on over 5,000, and working with local authorities and trading standards as well. We have done a large number of test purchase operations, 396 of those, where we send young people in to try and buy drink, in effect to test to licensees to see if they are complying with legislation.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We often use the cadets.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Yes, test purchasing?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Not in uniform.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** We have instigated, as I say, licence reviews on 29 premises; had variations to licenses on 69 premises. Eight premises have had their licenses revoked already as a result of review hearings, and 15 premises are pending review hearings, as well. So that is making sure that we are using all the powers available to us to get licensing committees to consider the appropriateness of the supervision of the licensed premises in their area.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Right. It is very interesting; if alcohol is such a key part of the increase in the VWI in town centres and elsewhere, is this something that we as a city should be saying more about? Should I be mounting the pulpit and urging temperance, and that sort of thing?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think there are two things that are always worth considering. One or two of the things that Helen has run through, in terms of control of licensing sale, so far as the police can affect it, in many parts of the country, happens routinely, but in London it is really hard, with 32 boroughs, to get a consistent approach.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We are saying that for the police, so I think we have to acknowledge that, which is why this impact will, I think, reinvigorate some of the boroughs to do something about that. There is no doubt that if we can get a consistent approach by the licensing authorities, which are the local authorities, to regarding a license as a privilege, not a right, that that really can make a difference to the way that licensees regard their licence. I think that is something we always encourage. Therefore, if we bring cases to them, we try to emphasise, it is usually after quite a few warnings, and usually quite a lot of complaints in the area about a particular pub or club. So I think that is what we always try to ask for, is support from the local authority, re really looking hard at should that licence continue?

I think the second thing is, I also believe the legislation remains a challenge in one area, which is about the density of licences. By that I mean, how many pubs, clubs, do you get in a small area?

Because if you get people routinely wandering between licensed premises, you often get more drunkenness, and then where they meet is where the violence occurs. I think I have mentioned here before, we used to have the old “needs” test; does this area need another license? If it did not, then you did not get one; that there is no such need, so therefore the local authority cannot quite often restrict, the number of licences.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** That is very interesting.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** So we see Westminster is unique, and I do not think anybody would argue the West End could be much different. But, certainly, when you get to Croydon, and Lewisham, or --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Yes, any ward where there is one pub (Several inaudible words)

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I think we should hear on this from various members of the panel. We have got distinguished experts in local government. Stephen, you wanted to say something about this?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I think I was just interested in just drawing out one point. I do think consistency is important, but also places are different. I was interested learning about the work that the council are doing, this practice around where there is not necessarily a nightclub economy, like Kingston, which changed from being a very sort of suburban, department-store-based town centre, to a nightclub west West End. That is the problem, if you go there, you suddenly see that; it has changed in decades.

But, equally, you get places like Lewisham, where it is not the night-time economy, it is the off-licence premises that are very irresponsible, and people are buying alcohol very cheaply, and it is being sold irresponsibly.

Is not there some scheme they are doing to try and get a more responsible way of selling alcohol? I do not know the information about that, I am just very interested.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Stonebridge ward, in Brent, is one of our top 30 where actually it is not around night-time economy. What we have got there is a hostel that was causing some significant issues, and also a traveller site where there were --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** In Stonebridge?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Yes. Between families, causing issues. What we have got in a number of places is responsible retailer schemes, where off-licences have agreed that they are not going to sell the high-strength lagers, beers, ciders; I think it is over 6.5% is normally the level they set it at.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** That is a voluntary scheme you are talking about?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** It is a voluntary scheme.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I think it is a great idea.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Can I ask, Keith, you have to dish out these licences; do you every turn a licence down?

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Generally very difficult, actually. We do need the support of the police. In Redbridge, actually, one of our buy-one-get-one-free officers works with our licensing department to help us with that. But, as Sir Bernard quite rightly said, we really could do with a change in legislation that makes licensing a privilege and not a right. It took us something like 18 months to close a problem club down in Redbridge, and there was a lot of help from the police. But it is getting the evidence.

I think there is work to be done from the Home Office, really, around the licences, and how we can make it, as you quite rightly say, more of a privilege, really.

But, having said that, I just want to change the tone slightly on violence with injury, Boris, if I may?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** I know you are doing some very good work around night-time economy, but some of the problems are not night-time economy; it is actually during the day. I would be interested to learn what you are doing around those particular issues?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** I think that is the importance of having local plans, rather than one entirely dictated from the centre. So in some areas, you are right, its perhaps, around the street drinking, and working, say, with off-licenses, with the likes of hostels, using dispersal zones, with ASB legislation, to get people to move out of the area. Also, doing problem solving about those people, to be frank, whose lives are in a bit of a mess, and who need support to be responsible rather than problematic to the local community.

We are seeing some really productive work at that very local level. We do not have the answers to homelessness by ourselves, so, clearly, working with others, we can direct people, and make sure that they are not causing a threat or fear to people who should be shopping in an area, to young people coming and going through transport hubs; and the likes of betting offices and fast-food shops, we are seeing them as hot spots, as well. That gives us some licensing opportunities with the various licences of their own forms. Also, that opportunity to work with responsible people who want to run decent premises, to help them to do that. So it is about identifying the local hot times and hot places.

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Could I just build on that? Another area is the schools, when schools meet at certain hotspots. Is there anything we can do about that?



**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Again, this is about the local neighbourhood team absolutely recognising and understanding that. I was out in Richmond just before Christmas, went down to the college there; we met with the principal, and the officers were explaining to me the concerns of local residents, as people come out of the college and walk to the nearest train station, and you can see there is a huge density, and opportunities for things to go awry.

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** It is not just neighbourhood policing, though, Helen, because, as I remember, it was during one of the strikes that you have, sometimes, anyway, I was helping at Hammersmith Broadway. It was actually a general strike, I think it was, from memory; I think it was the tube, mainly. They were using buses, so buses were the alternative; or the other way round; some time ago. What I noticed was, all the kids of course converged from local schools into the transit hub. I met this guy, he was a PCSO at the time, and he is now a PC, so he has become a Police Constable. He knew all the kids; and it was interesting, it was the kids from the pupil referral unit, he knew exactly who the gang, associated, affiliated people, were; he could name them all. They were all there at that point in time.

It is a bit chaotic, particularly at these kinds of very busy transit hubs. I guess, under your command, you have got the transport command and the neighbourhood people, and just getting the intelligence for that to work must be hard work?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Absolutely; and using our schools officers, as well, because obviously they know people; and British Transport Police are very important partners in this, as well.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** There is no doubt that, some boroughs in London, the children and young people actually are educated in adjacent boroughs or have to travel quite a long way. So you have actually got quite big communities of young people travelling. That is not necessarily a problem; of course, it can look intimidating, particularly if you are not very mobile yourself; if large numbers are moving, and you cannot get a seat on the bus. From time to time, there will be disputes between kids, because that is what has always happened.

The ones that we particularly are worried about are where it is arranged violence. We have all, I am sure, lived through, or certainly I have lived through schools who arranged to fight with other schools; it is a sad reality of growing up. When we get intelligence about that, we will try and disrupt it, and first of all try and prevent it happening. Often the schools will know; the kids will have told somebody, so we are able to do something about that.

The more worrying stuff, usually, is when it is gang-related, and who else is involved in it.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Do we have a system of taking away their Zip cards if they are caught engaging in violence?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** That is the travel card?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** The free card.



**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Well I suppose we could consider it, but it could be a little bit difficult because then they have still got to get to school.

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** They all travel free ...

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** They all travel free, I know, so the buses are the means of facilitating the ...

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** I believe that we did; I thought this was two or three years ago.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** We did.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** This was quite a hot topic two or three years ago.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Longer than that, yes.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** This was about withdrawing the free travel from young people who had basically nicked or misbehaved.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** It is not a right, if they misbehave on a bus, or on a tube, in an area, is it?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Also, Transport for London (TfL) put about £20 million into the Safer Transport teams. I do not know whether we still fund those?

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Absolutely.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I remember places like Croydon, and big bus stops at school closing time, that was the kind of issue that I think we and others can look at that --

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** It was an immense issue a few years ago, because, exactly right, in certain boroughs far too many young people are travelling too large distances, and there was the discussion to remove that privilege, in essence, of free travel, for those that were misbehaving.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Although it is true to say, as we were talking about, the possibility of schools problems, I think, on the whole, public transport violence has come down.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** It has, no, it has come down immensely, I think partly because we had a big push on it, and CCTV has made a difference. I just cannot remember now what we stated. I think we take their Zip cards away if they are caught, is my memory of it. We do; Rebecca says we do. We do take away their Zip cards.

Look, I think we have had a pretty good discussion of VWI. Do you want to come in about repeat victimisation?

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes, certainly. I think there is a slide somewhere talking about it; there it is. I was quite struck, looking at it; I know Keith is going to talk a little bit later, particularly around preventing burglary, but I was struck by the degrees of repeat victimisation across all crime areas. I would like to talk about this for a short while, particularly the link into the higher degree of repeats in domestic violence, as well.

Again, Keith will be talking about burglary. Burglary is a particularly debilitating crime. It affects individuals badly, and the neighbourhood. It is doubly debilitating when people come back again and burgle the same property. I would be interested in your thoughts about how you are addressing this repeat victimisation; because all boroughs suffer from it. At best, it is 10%; somewhere like Bexley, it is nearly a fifth of crimes are repeats; 18%, in essence. So I found that quite disturbing. What is your thoughts around repeats?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I suppose for the last 30 years, we have known that repeat victimisation, repeat locations and repeat offenders are something we need to concentrate on. This shows that very starkly; so it shows that a small number of victims can account for a large amount of crime.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** The same is true for a small number of offenders. The same is true for the place they meet, which is the repeat locations. What we try to do it to put that into our approach.

Number one is about how we support the victim; how do we help them to defend themselves, if you like. Number two is how we concentrate our efforts with those victims who most need it; from domestic violence, as you have suggested; burglary, we have talked about already.

The sad reality is that what usually happens is that, one, you have got a vulnerable victim, somebody who is not always able to protect themselves financially, have not the wherewithal to just work out how they make themselves less vulnerable. Often, they are living or working in areas where there are more offenders than you might see in other areas. So the combination is of a weaker victim, with a stronger, or a larger number of offenders.

What we try to do is to provide as much support to the victims and make sure we lock up the offenders.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** In this sort of area, it is the local teams that are important, the local policing model teams, because they are the ones out there supporting around target hardening and reassurance, and they will visit. When that first offence is committed, the offer is a visit from the local policeman. There is that sort of dialogue going on. When the officers go on that first offence, do they have a dialogue about --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think the other thing to add to that, Steve, is the work with other partners.

**Steve O’Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** What you often find when you have got a repeat victim, there are other issues going on. So it might be psychiatric illness; it might be a social care issue; it might be a welfare issue, in terms of finance. Sometimes, when you say to somebody, “Right, well you might need to replace your locks on your windows, because you keep getting burgled”, and they cannot afford to do it. So someone has to find some way out; they either carry on being burgled, or someone finds some charity or some local authority measure to assist.

That is just one example. Or, it may be that person has a psychiatric illness and is not getting the support they need in the community. They have been identified as a victim by, often, some of the kids in the area. So you have got to help that victim, as well as deal with the offenders.

So you are quite right; the neighbourhood officers have got to try and make that assessment, because what we see is, we just see spikes of repeated return to the same address, for different reasons.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Not only burglary?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** It is not only burglary, it is --

**Steve O’Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Any neighbourhood crime, in essence, isn’t it?

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Crime is essentially always going to have a location, and then you see it is going round in circles --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** So a particular house, with a single male living in a certain place, is going to be vulnerable for various reasons. It may be antisocial behaviour; starts as that. They may then decide to break in. They may set a fire in a bin. They may attack the car, if they have one. So once the offenders have identified they are not going to be challenged, and once they have identified the consequences are limited, sadly, they will pursue that; unless we intervene, collectively. So what we try to do, as police officers, we try our best, but where we need to identify support from other partners, we will do that, too. Often, that accounts for many of the very high ...

This shows an average, in Barking and Dagenham, of 2.15 incidents per victim, I think this was per year, I would imagine; it is not clear on here but I imagine it is per year. So that is two per year. But some of the people might be victim to many offences in a few weeks, because somebody has suddenly had a spate of it; usually, the gang.

**Steve O’Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Domestic abuse, talking about that, again, that is very high, that is a particularly high percentage; a third of victims is a repeat. Now, we understand, 33%, I saw, it was VWI. But, certainly, this is different area of crime, but particularly where victims are often vulnerable to multiple offences against them, particularly by the nature of the offence. Helen.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Absolutely. There is lots of statistics around burglaries and around domestic violence. Of course, we know that domestic violence, that a lot of victims do not report the first time. They can be subject to many offences before they have the confidence to come forward. The whole system now is set up so that, from the first report through to the police that attends, there is also other agencies receiving reports; that we put together those factors that indicate you are at risk. You will be aware of the MARAC process where victims who are at risk, all the agencies come together to do that work to protect them.

We also look at repeat offending around domestic violence, as well, because, again, the research tells us that, yes, there will be repeats on one particular victim, but actually a perpetrator of domestic violence in one relationship, if they move onto another relationship, they are very likely to be violent within that as well. So sometimes, you may have a number of victims with the same perpetrator, even in domestic violence, and we have a really strong focus on, really, those most dangerous people, who, if we can take them to court for violence, then absolutely. But if we need to use maybe other criminality they are involved in, or things like Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs), those are beginning to be used really successfully.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Domestic Violence Protection Order, how does that work?

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** It is an intervention. Because the process is moving away from centres, like in Croydon there was a Family Justice Centre, now it has moved into a hub and spoke model which is more about intervention, where Domestic Abuse advisers are going into the community, targeting areas where there is potential and reported domestic violence, to intervene at a relatively early stage.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** The Domestic Violence Protection Order, it is a relatively new power, whereby we may arrest someone but not have the evidence to bring them before a criminal court with a charge, but there is sufficient to get a protection order. We have seen some cases of quite chaotic relationships, where the victim, sadly, is spending time with the offender, sometimes even when they are on bail and should not be going near them. But we have got some really good examples --

(Overspeaking)

Helen Bailey (MOPAC Chief Operating Officer): -- and having got the Domestic Violence Protection Order in place and breached, we then have the power to --

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes, I think where we are seeing a reduction in repeat Domestic Abuse is this changed process, now. There is far more emphasis on earlier intervention, rather than reacting to the crime of, and the results of that. We should see this hopefully --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** This is going to be a challenge, and it is really important, and I think one of the reasons why we have got some data to see how you are doing; and this section is on crime prevention. It is fair to say that people

who are the victims, repeatedly, whether it is Domestic Abuse or any kind of crime, that is, I would have thought, Commissioner, something on your watch, you want that to be at the absolute minimum, do not you? You do not want to see people being multiple victims of crime.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** When we see this range, and the average being, I do not know, 13%, or whatever it is, a range from 10% to 18% across London for all crimes of the MOPAC 7 victim-based crimes, what should it be, at its very best? What could it be with great policing?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I do not think we can say that definitely. Just to continue --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Well when you talk about --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Let me just complete on this domestic violence issue, because you raised it about domestic violence. We have already got 500 officers dedicated to domestic violence, and we have just put a further 100 in, for the very reasons that these figures are showing us, that we have to consider what more we have to do.

We have got a three-strand strategy which is about the very issue that you raised, which is about repeat victimisation. So the first part is to keep victims safe in their own homes. They should not be moving. So we use a range of tactical options; we have got panic alarms; we have got a sanctuary scheme, which other charities help with; we have got mobile phones that we offer; we have got covert and overt cameras. We have got improved partnership working, as Helen has already alluded to in terms of MARAC.

So there is a plan in offender management, and the principle is, get them out and keep them out. So we treat DA offenders as the same as sexual offenders. We use, as Helen has mentioned, the Achilles heel tactics. We have got bespoke bail conditions, which we then have to enforce, and we have got Domestic Violence Protection Orders, and Notices, and Civil Orders, all of which we use quite significantly. The DVPOs only came in in November 2014; we have already obtained 40. It will take a while to get this into a routine of policing.

Finally, we use an emerging risk, which is better use of intelligence to predict peak times, and new methodologies to identify high-impact offenders. This is to do with the recency and frequency of the types of attacks that they are getting involved in.

So I think that we can show that we have done an awful lot. Then the final leg, which I think is going to bear fruit, really, over the next two years, which is our roll out of body-worn video. Now, what we have seen in those areas where we have been able to use body-worn video, it usually, nearly always, leads to a conviction, because it is very powerful evidence that is available for both charging decisions, to the CPS, and obviously in the court, without the victim having to come forward. Now, we have already got 600 pieces of this kit out; we want to get 16,000 out over the next year, and I think that will make a big difference.

So you are quite right that we need to reduced repeat victimisation; for me, particularly in this area, where we are trying to increase reporting; but for those who do report, we need to see retentions. I think, to set a precise figure --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** I think I get the point. To be honest with you, I have got (Several inaudible words) because I remember when I was early in the job, and my instinct was not to set a figure around detections. I think, broadly speaking, I asked for your professional judgement, and I think you said it was about 25% for the Metropolitan Police Service, and you said, "But I broadly would want to get it to a third". We did not set a target for it, because we did not want any gaming. You have highlighted the difference between primary and secondary detection, how that can all be gained and actually not achieve what we want, which is an overall reduction in crime.

I am interested, just on the wider picture, we looked at repeats, and you, Steve, can look at the rest of England and Wales; is there a most similar force view of repeat victimisation?

**Stephen Otter (Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary):** We do not have that figure, it is not something that is recorded. Each force records it separately, but we do not have it, it is not collated at the Centre. It is something that we could do if you like for the next meeting, and look at the most of the similar groups that the Metropolitan Police Service is in; we could look at that, and bring that.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** The overall thing I think we can agree is that we want to see less of it.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Well of course, yes, we want to see it go down. It is just useful to know where we stand if we look at other urban areas, like the great city of Birmingham, which I gather was the second city, once, and Manchester.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Steve, can I ask you, first, would a national Domestic Abuse register, which has been mooted in various places I have been to lately, be helpful? If you had a national register of domestic abuse offenders?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Victims, or offenders?

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Offenders. That does not exist at the moment, I believe. I am aware of some lobbying in other places for it. I am asking the professionals; would you have an opinion about that, if there was a register?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We have a national record of criminal offences, so I am not sure what this would add --

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** You have a sexual offenders national register; they do go on the sex register --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** There is a register of sex offenders, yes.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** There is a register of sex offenders, that exists. If you had a register of Domestic Abuse offenders --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I would resist it.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** You would resist it?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** One of the things we are going to be confronted by over this next few years is that, over the last few years, we have got this huge sex offenders register, so we now have people who have been in prison often; but not always; who are a risk. We, the police, are now expected to look out for them, I think, which the Probation Service, I believe, used to do. Now, frankly, there is not an awful lot we can do when we are reduced in resources to manage offenders in the community as well as try and discover them when they have just committed an offence.

I think if we want to start that approach, I would not support it.

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** You would not?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sorry, can I just go back to body-born cameras? I am sorry to; I have been mulling this over. I love these body-worn cameras. Where did we go and see them, was it in Croydon?

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Sutton.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sutton, that is right. I can see how effective they might be when something is actually kicking off, but how do they help with victims, and after the fight --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I do not know if you saw some of the footage that we have got, but you see around the country, as an officer arrives at the scene of an offence --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** It is obvious what has happened --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** -- the first thing that happens is that the victim will approach for door. If a child(?) arrives terrified and crying, has got blood on their face, or there is blood smeared down the wall, the fact that you do not record the incident, that fact that the woman is too frightened to talk to you while the offender is stood there, but when they are moved will give --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** So you have got a lot richer information about what has happened, yes?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** You do not need the exact evidence to show that something terrible has happened, but it is then our job to get all the evidence to show that that particular person committed a charge. What the video shows very clearly is the



state of the victim, and the fact they are too frightened, often, to talk to the police in the presence of the offender ...

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I think body-worn cameras are going to be an absolute game changer. When are they going to be rolled out across ...?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We believe that by the end of this next financial year, we should have got every officer who we want to have one, having one.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Extraordinary. OK. That is very good.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** That is the 16,000, from the 500 ...?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think the capital we need to buy the kit is about £9 million. I think capital is our biggest issue.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** OK.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** So we think that is going to be possible; we need to talk to the Deputy Mayor about the investment, obviously, but ...

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Of course, I will do whatever I am told. Shall we move on to theft? Have we done burglary, I think?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** We gave burglary a good kicking, I think.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Theft of motor vehicles. I think, actually, what we want to understand, before we get to theft of motor vehicles, which is the problem, I have say, what has not been picked up is the immense win on theft of mobile phones; already down by a third. I know that you and the Commissioner are lobbying very hard to get the manufacturers to think about how you design this out. I think we have got to understand, when we see this rising tide of motor vehicle crime, what kind of cars we are seeing, and when we talk about motor vehicles, we might think they are all motor cars; they are not. Just understanding how can we design this out, I think is actually really important.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Is that a big problem, Bernard? Do you want to take it? The crime speaks for itself, really.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think actually it is not a big problem, but it is a growing one, and what worries me is it could get out of hand. We saw with mobile phones a slight surge, and then it rocketed, because the problem was they were easy to steal, and they were easy to sell. That is what is worrying me about the stolen vehicles. We have seen tens of years of stolen vehicle crime reduction.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes, I remember.



**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** One thing I just want to make clear, because one of the slides could be a little bit confusing, is that when somebody takes a car, there are two outcomes. They either get the car back, in which case it is a Taken Without Consent (TWOC) or it is a theft, they never get it back. It is intended to deprive them of it permanently. There is a slide about where they are recovered; when they are recovered, they are not stolen. They are only stolen when obviously you do not get your car back.

I think at its worst in London, and I do not know exactly the year, but I think there were about 300,000 a year stolen. Eighteen months ago, about 23,000 a year stolen; so a relatively small number, compared. But then, this last year, we have seen a rise to 24,000, and what we think is happening is that they have now found a way to steal cars without keys, or to replace the key, and they have not managed to find a way to do that.

There are two problems. One is replicating the key by an electronic device, by interrupting the key talking to the car. The other one is by having something they can put into the key ignition. Both ways work, and some vehicles are more prone to this than others.

Until we get that design problem sorted out, we have got a problem, and my concern is that the number being stolen will rise as soon as they get a market to sell them. So I think the only thing that is inhibiting at the minute is their ability to sell the vehicle or the parts. We are getting some boroughs hit by ten vehicles are going in a night. So, yes, this could very quickly become an issue.

So we can go through some of the things we are doing --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Could you give the numbers again, possibly? So you said 24,000 stolen a year, as against, what was the figure?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think year before, it was 23,000. So, numerically, it is not --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** So 2013, 23,000; 2014, 24,000? The cars that are being nicked are the posh end stuff?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes, but I think there is two factors. One is the fact that some vehicles are more vulnerable because of the way their alarm systems work. The second, clearly, people are stealing valuable things, and the more expensive cars are the ones they can get maximum money for.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes. Right, anybody want to come in? Jonathon?

**Jonathon Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes, I just wanted to pick up on some of the things that have been raised, there, on the practical aspects of the technology. I understand that there are these gizmos that you can now override the security systems with, and there appears to be a particular issue around one make, one Range Rover, which seems to

be particularly attractive; presumably, in many cases, stolen to order. It seems to be quite similar to the iPhones situation, where a lot of that has been designed out.

Is there an opportunity for a discussion with those manufacturers? Can they look at things such as fingerprint ignition, or other protective measures, which could help to reduce this?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Sure, you are right. I think we have to have a twin-track approach, because even if the manufacturers agree to change the security of the design, which is not always as straightforward as we sometimes think it is; it can take a while to bleed through to the factory production line. So I think we can look at probably a year before these things can change, because they have also produced probably 10 million cars, and have to sell those before they change. So I think we have got to do that, you are quite right, to work with the manufacturers.

Number two is we have got to do more in the intervening period to lock up the people who are stealing them, and obviously to advise people to take more care in protecting themselves, if they can. For example, if you put a car in a garage, it tends not to be stolen. Of course, not everybody has that facility, but of course if you do have a garage, it is not a bad idea to put it in the garage, and these types of attacks are less likely. I think we would like people to take more care of their own property.

Of course, what we are doing is targeting wards. In February, 3 February, we started a particular operation which is targeting the boroughs we think that are most vulnerable, and the vehicles we think are most vulnerable.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** What is the operation called, there?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Operation Endeavour.

**Jonathon Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Is there a way of blocking these gizmos? Is that another opportunity to look at working with some technicalites to make sure that they no longer work?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** The start point is to try and make them ineffective.

**Jonathon Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think, though, in between times, I think, I understand, that some of these devices are fairly easy to buy off the internet --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Which are these devices?

**Jonathon Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member):** These are the sort of tech you can buy off the internet for £50 that overrides the security systems in the car.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** They have got an innocent and well-intentioned purpose, which is for car engineers; they allow a car engineer to do their job. Where somebody loses a key; somebody needs to recover a vehicle where there is no key; then they have got to be able to overcome the security devices. That is where they were started. Of course, others have found that it is a very helpful.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Sure.

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Is it not true, back in the day, I remember, before we had all these different, sophisticated systems, there was a rise in use of steering locks, crook locks, which is a physical barrier? Is that not something we should be recommending it to people? They are very cheap --

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** Indeed; it absolutely is something that we are recommending, and trying to get the owners of certain sort of vehicles to use. BMW Land and Range Rovers are the ones that are particularly picked up, in terms of keyless thefts.

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** BMW, Land Rover and Range Rover? So the same, are they --

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** The Range Rover make, that is just over 10% of our keyless vehicle crime, and BMW is 15%.

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Wow.

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** I know, for instance in Kensington and Chelsea, there has been a density of Range Rovers stolen there; they are literally instructing officers to stop that make of vehicle when they see it to check that it is the legitimate owner driving it.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Really/

**Helen King (MPS Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing):** We are encouraging people to use those somewhat unsophisticated devices, such as crook locks, because it creates that disincentive --

**Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member):** We should have a conversation with Range Rover to bring out branded Range Rover or Land Rover --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** What, crook locks?

**Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member):** Or design it out, again, find some smart way of --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes, why can you not have a sort of belt-and-braces system, so that you have a kind of mechanical lock as well as this complicated electronic thing?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think both work. The old crook lock, or various versions of it, are worth having a go at again. What we do know is that even when they were in place, they eventually found ways to overcome them. So I think, at the moment, we have now got a group it is worth trying again with that, so I think we encourage people to give it a go; it is worth their --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** I know what people could do. People could have their own clamp; they could clamp their own car.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think some people do, actually.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Some people do that, do they?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Auto-clamp. "Don't clamp me; I've already been clamped by myself".

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I think the broad point to the public is, you cannot rely as much as you did --

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** On the design of the car.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** -- which we all thought was a really great thing.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** You could park anywhere; you could just park illegally, and then clamp yourself.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Of course, what I would not want to go away from; a poor design will -- but one of the big things to resolve this is that we have got to lock up our car thieves.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** It is all (Several inaudible words)

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** We know we have just elected a new Assistant Commissioner, and I have asked Pat, one of her first tasks, to look into this area. I suspect we are going to have to put more people on the Stolen Vehicle squad. Over the years, our Stolen Vehicle squads have really got reduced; they used to be great, big things; because they are organised crime. Now they have really slimmed down to very small numbers; we are going to have to put more people in.

You have got to follow these people, you have got to find out where they are breaking them up sometimes; they are going out of the country. You have got to find out where they are making the money, and taking it out. So we have got some very good people there, but I do not think we have got enough at the moment. So Pat is going to look to see what we need to do to

either re-target people out of Flying squad, or put more people into the Stolen Vehicle squad to make sure it is not profitable for them.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** OK. Well, look, I think we have had a pretty good discussion, there, of vehicle crime. So that, I think, probably brings us to the end of part two.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** Can I just say one thing, if I may? It is fair to say the police, as usual, a lot of actions, a lot of activity. We have heard about Operation Endeavour; we have heard about Operation Dauntless in the home; Operation Equinox with the alcohol-based elements. One of the things that we have undertaken to do together, Helen, is to visit those high-harm parts of London where we know the police cannot do this on their own. You have talked about the importance of licensing, but there are other civil enforcement powers that you can use and bring to bear; you can design things out.

So we have got local MOPAC Challenges in Lambeth, Southwark, Croydon, Westminster and Newham, looking specifically at violence. Mayor, you should know that this is not just about meetings here, that we want to get out --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** You are getting out, into the neighbourhoods.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** -- into the neighbourhoods and ensure that --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** It has got to be done.

**Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime):** -- we get everybody --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes. Really encourage that. OK, terrific. Terrific. Just finally, obviously, we were going to begin with the obvious things. Poignant context to our meeting, which is that the world had been very much shocked by terrorism around the world. Terrible things happening in Nigeria; awful things we saw last week in Paris. I think that the great thing for that city is that I hope very much that they will pull together, as we did after the bombings in 2005.

But I wondered whether you had any message you wanted to share with us about how you see the threat levels in London at the moment? How do you see the implications of what has happened in Paris, in particular, for London? Is there any read-across, at all; is there any intelligence that you would like to share with MOPAC about how it is all going?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** First of all, we are all shocked about what happened; we all condemn the attacks, and of course, innocent people were murdered, and police officers amongst them; so it is a shocking event. We are looking, together with our Security Service colleagues, and of course with the French, to find out first of all exactly what happened, because that has now got to be decided, minute by minute, who did what.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Secondly, to decide whether or not that was an attack arranged within the country, or organised from out of the country. Who else was involved. Of course, the very important thing for the UK, and London in particular, is where there any intelligence links to people who are here, or have been here? There is suggestions that one of the attackers had been in London at some point. We need to explore, what does that mean?

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Which one was that?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I cannot remember the name of them, but it was one of the three who was said to have been in the London area in the first rushes of what happened; so we will explore that.

So that the first point is we will find all the intelligence we can about that incident, to discover what they did, how they organised it, and what we can learn for London? Are there any attacks that might be linked to, or people linked to, that particular terrorise cell?

The second thing is, of course, this happened in France, and it is not a direct read across for us, therefore. I think the biggest thing we have all got to do is to accept that it is a similar group of people, with a similar motive, with similar levels of organisation, and, frankly, at times, similar levels of training. So I suppose it brings in all too sharply that this is not a virtual threat. It means that these people are out there. We keep warning that we are worried about some of these people, and we need to make sure that we are all alert to that threat.

That has meant that we have gone back and reviewed, first of all, the intelligence on all the known suspects within the UK; we are in the process of doing that; is there anything we learn from this? Secondly, we have had a look again at our ability to respond as we saw the French police and gendarmerie do. They seemed to do a very good job, in very difficult circumstances.

Now, we are not an armed police force. We have broadly half the number of police officers that you see in France. We have to be sure that --

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Half the number of police officers that --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes. I think there is probably about 250,000 police in France, and there are probably about 120,000 in the UK.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Of course, the French had police long before we did.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** They, of course, have a third force; they have got the Republican Security Companies (CRS).

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Parliament would not have it, for a long time, in Britain, because of this anxiety of having a state force present.

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes; what we need to make sure is that all the plans we have got in place are match fit for the type of attack that we saw in Paris over a

few days. We saw some terrible attacks, and the French were having to cope with multiple locations and not being sure where the attacks were from.

We are going away and looking at that. I have to say, the other thing that we are going to have to consider carefully over the next few days is obviously how this affects policing in Britain generally, and what that means for how we patrol. I think there are some serious things that we have to learn from these type of attacks.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Could I just ask about the Charlie Hebdo cartoons, and the newsagents who are deciding to distribute Charlie Hebdo, I think it is either this week, or next week, I think the magazines are probably going to be arriving in this country. Do you see any particular risk to them? Are there measures that the police should be taking to protect such newsagents, magazine distributors, and so on?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** One of the things we have done, which I have not gone through, was obviously one of the big things we have done, is to look at Jewish interests. We looked at French interests, in London in particular, but across the UK, to see what we can do to both reassure them and work with them. We have also worked with media broadcasters and journalists generally, to see if there is any general advice; we are sending our Counter Terrorism (CT) security advisers, to see whether or not you can give, whether it be the big newspapers, or magazines, any security advice that they might find helpful.

I think there is going to be a limit to what we can do in terms of just general publications, but we will do our best to work with our local officers.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** You are not aware of any particular threat, so far?

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** I have heard a couple of things today that concerned me a little. I think there is no doubt that obviously we all want to protect freedom of speech, and that anybody has got the right to broadly say what they need to say. I do not think anybody has created a freedom to insult, and I think have all got to be sensitive to other people's feelings. Of course, it makes the police's job more difficult, and the community's security more difficult, if people abuse the -- well not abuse, but take the opportunity to have freedom of speech, and then point it in other people's face. I think we have all got to be sensible about this, in making sure that freedom of speech is protected.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Yes. I think the difficult for newspapers and magazines and media organisations generally is how do they inform their viewers and listeners about what the central subject of the offence is, when they cannot publish it for fear of being fire-bombed or --

**Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (MPS Commissioner):** Yes; and that can never be acceptable. I think it is whether, having been published, then, what do people do with that publication to be aware ... Probably I should leave it at that; but I think, at this time, everybody has got to be sensitive. We have got a very diverse community in London, and we want to make sure everybody is kept safe; and we are doing our best to do that.

**Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair):** Good stuff. OK, thank you very much. Thank you. Any other questions, anybody? If not, I think I declare this edition of the MOPAC Challenge ended. Thank you very much indeed, everybody, see you next time. Thank you.