

Date: Monday, 11 January 2016
Location: The Chamber, City Hall
Hearing: MOPAC Challenge Board: Performance

Start time: 11.00am
Finish time: 12.30pm

Members:

Boris Johnson, Mayor (Chair)
Stephen Greenhalgh, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime
Keith Prince, MOPAC Challenge Member
Jonathan Glanz, MOPAC Challenge Member
Steve O'Connell, MOPAC Challenge Member
Linda Duncan, Chair of the MPS/MOPAC Audit Panel
Helen Bailey, MOPAC Chief Operating Officer

Guests:

Metropolitan Police Service
Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Commissioner
Craig Mackey, Deputy Commissioner
Helen King, Assistant Commissioner

Stephen Otter, HMIC

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Welcome to the latest and the final edition of the MOPAC Challenge of this Mayoralty. At least, I very much hope that the ceremony will be continued. It has been of great value, enabling us to see what is going on, to ask intelligent questions. I am very grateful to everybody taking part.

We are going to begin by asking the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to rattle through some slides. Is that right, Stephen?

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

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Tell us how we have been going.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): We will take these in four sections and maybe then take the questions for each, rather than try to rattle through all four sections.

The first looks at the performance of the MOPAC7 Crimes. How we stand against the baseline aspiration of reducing those by 20%, over four years.

Slide 1: The individual MOPAC7 crime types recorded a reduction compared to the baseline year of 2011/2012 except for VWI.

If we take the first slide, it shows that we are down 18.4%, against baseline, for all MOPAC7s. That ranges from a seismic reduction of 44% for robbery, down 26.6 % for burglary, since the baseline year, and down 31% for theft from motor vehicles. There is one increase, which is violence with injury (VWI), which is up 18.8%, and we will look at some of the drivers behind that.

Slide 2: MOPAC7 recorded crimes are reducing more in London than E & W.

If we take the next slide, reduction in MOPAC7 is considerably greater than the reduction that we are seeing in the rest of England and Wales. The average, over the same period, is 11% in England and Wales compared to 19%. This takes us through to June 2015. The reduction in robberies, although we start with a relatively high base, is down 44% in London compared to 21% in England and Wales. Burglaries, again, down by more than a quarter compared to 71%.

The increase in violence with injury is seen across the rest of the country, so the increase of 18% is matched by a 15% increase in the rest of England and Wales. Take the next slide on violence with injury.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Is that borne out, Stephen, by the next slide? The next slide gives the impression that London is, sort of, in the middle and then there is some --

Slide 3: Increase in VWI is not specific to London. 38 out of all the 44 police force areas, (including BTP) recorded an increase compared to FY 2011/2012.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Basically, we have seen a slightly higher than the average but we are percentage wise, as you say, in the middle. We are seeing some massive increases in certain parts of the Country. Virtually all but a few have recorded increases and we are much in the middle. The second, in terms of rate per thousand population, but it does show that 38 of the 44 police force areas, including BTP, have recorded an increase. Very few have seen any decrease at all.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Including BTP.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): There are essentially six forces, which have recorded a decrease, but the vast majority have recorded an increase.

Slide 4: Change in recording practices makes it difficult to compare current recorded VWI figures against the baseline figures.

If we go to the next slide, it shows back in 2013 that there was a change in recording practices based on a statement about a break in the continuity of the skin being seen as a form of serious violence. Then we saw a more than doubling of GBH in two months from February 2013 to April 2013. You see this big jump if you look at the second slide on the change in GBH.

"Any break in the continuity of the skin, is classified as a serious injury", so there is no doubt that the change in guidance has had an increase in the amount recorded.

Slide 5: CSEW shows a reduction in violence not reflected in recorded crime

If we go to the next slide, the impact of that is that the amount that has been recorded is far closer to the estimate of the total amount of violence with injury. There has been a narrowing of the gap. Back in 2011/2012, the police recorded 61,000 compared to a baseline of 80,000, so there is a big gap between recorded and the estimate of the total amount of violence with injury. That has narrowed now to 71,000 and to an increase of 82,000. There is about a 10,000 difference, whereas previously there was 20,000 difference, in recorded and unrecorded.

Slide 6: Reduction in Assault Admission in A&E.

The next slide, we had not seen a big increase. In fact, we have seen a reduction in assault admissions. That is very serious assault, requiring hospitalisations. You see a reduction in assault admissions in A&E. Obviously, not all violence with injury leads to a hospital admission, but there has been only 3.9% or 180 less assault admissions in 2014/2015 compared to 2013/2014. More than half of the boroughs recorded a reduction in A&E assault admissions. There is no indication that there is an increase in the severity of violence over that period.

If we now just take stock of the crime survey data and the MOPAC7 data, can we have the next slide?

Slide 7: CSEW VWI figures give a better representation of change than recorded VWI

The first table shows the figures for the Crime Survey of England and Wales for the seven MOPAC crimes. If we took those across the board, we have seen a reduction of 37% in these

high-volume high-impact neighbourhood crimes. That is down 37% according to the Crime Survey of England and Wales.

Now, unfortunately, some of the base sizes, for the crime types are probably too small to be very robust. In discussion with National Statistics Authority, and with HMIC, who might want to comment, that figure of a 2% is more likely to be the real rise in violence with injury. If we take the police recorded data, and the data that we have for the Crime Survey of England and Wales, we magically achieved the 20% target.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Which 20% target are we achieving? The overall 20% fall in --

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The 20% target. If we do not --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That is a miracle. Unbelievable.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Based on the ONS findings. We have substituted the violence with injury stats. If we take the 2% increase recorded by the Crime Survey for England and Wales rather than the 18% increase in police recording, because there have been changes in recording practices, we hit the 20%.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Is the rest of the data CSEW data?

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): No, the rest of data is the seven MOPAC --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That chart at the top of page 9, is a hybrid data chart?

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): No, the first chart is All Crime Survey of England and Wales --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): It is all crimes of England and Wales.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): -- which shows a 375 reduction. I will show one bit of information. Unfortunately, the Crime Survey

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): The second chart is the hybrid chart.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The second chart is the hybrid chart, exactly, with the yellow hybrid.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): It is by cunning grafting of one data set onto another that you are able to get to 20% reduction.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Because of the shift in the recording practices, the measurement of the increase in violence with injury is partially -- not all

-- reflecting a change in recording practice. Therefore, the way to remove that shift, and this is in discussion with the statisticians and not by policy people or politicians. They say you would take the Crime Survey of England Wales data, because it is a big sample size, and that will give you a flavour of the real --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): What has really been happening.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It has not gone down, but it has not gone up by 18%. It has gone up by around 2%, according to those data.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): With the scratching the skin criterion that has been introduced.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Correct. Finally, before we take questions, we recognise that violence is a problem. It is one of the crime types that is going up and despite all those changes in recording practices, we are seeing a change in the age of the people committing the violence with injury.

At the start of this second Mayoral term, it was closer to age 21 as an offender and now the peak is now at 25 years old. So there is a shift in the age --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): They are getting older.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): -- of the violence with injury offender. They are getting older.

Slide 8: Tackling violence - a targeted approach

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): So that is something we need to probe and understand but clearly, there are issues. The population is getting older, but there is also domestic abuse profiling and those that report domestic is greater. There is repeat offending. That is a key insight that if you want a targeted approach, we have to recognise the age of the offender is changing over time.

I think I will take some questions now.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Thank you. That was very, very interesting. Obviously, this discussion about VWI has to be set in the context of what are some very substantial achievements by the Metropolitan Police Force in driving down other crime types or helping to drive down other crime types. I really think I would single out what has happened on robbery and what has happened on burglary, both very distressing crimes for the public; both things that we have pledged to bring down and having some considerable success in doing so.

If what you are saying is correct about the effect of the change in the guidelines, Stephen, that is heartening. Obviously, there is no possible cause for complacency because the numbers are still up on any view. I am, of course, very proud of that hybrid graph on page 9, of which I will use to prove to anybody who asks me that we have the MOPAC Challenge. The challenge of reducing the seven crime types of the ones that have most direct effect on the public.

There is an argument for saying, without too much stress, without too much damage, too much manipulation of the statistics, we have achieved a 20% fall. That is very, very encouraging, but, I suppose, Members of the Panel will want to push harder on some of these points. Particularly on VWI and what it all means. Who wants to come in? Linda?

Linda Duncan (Chair of the MPS/MOPAC Audit Panel): Perhaps I could just bring Stephen Otter in on his view concerning this hybrid graph; I know that you have had some input into the differing methodologies used to measure VWI. Do you have a view on the veracity of the measurement that we have used here in terms of using the crime survey information rather than recorded crime? Secondly, how does that align with what you are seeing on the ground through your inspections? Does that crime survey information verify what you are seeing during the course of your inspections on the ground?

Stephen Otter (HMIC): Mayor, our inspections do verify that what the Office for National Statistics has said is that they believe -- and they are actually quite strong on this. Statisticians are not often strong on a point. They think that the rise in violence with injury is due to change in recording practice, not guidelines. The same guidelines are being applied this is being in practice. They are being done properly, so there has been an improvement in the recording of these crimes that has seen an increase.

Of course, it is therefore reasonable for you to make some adjustments in that crime category and we were involved in some of the conversations that went on to look at how you might want to do that. Where it is less easy is then to look at the whole group of categories and have one that is measured differently, sitting with those that are measured in another way, but you are between a rock and a hard place because there is no other way of measuring this. We think it is a reasonable assessment to say that if you were to take into account what the Crime Survey of England and Wales says which you cannot use on its own because it does not measure crimes where the victim is a child, below 18. It is flawed, but nevertheless in terms of trends it is very accurate over time. We think it is reasonable to have that as a separate category.

What I do not think we could agree is that you could then add that to the others and then say you say you have minus twenty. I think you have to have a caveat in that.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Rats.

Stephen Otter (HMIC): I think otherwise that you are measuring apples and pears, and then saying they are all apples.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): You are, indeed.

Stephen Otter (HMIC): It is absolutely right to tell the public that there is not a big increase. The 26% increase hides the fact that probably violence with injury -- certainly the Crime Survey of England and Wales is showing a plateauing. It has flattened out in their data. Although we do not have data for this, it is not published anywhere yet, there is some evidence that it is starting to go up, but only marginally across the Country. A 2% increase seems to be consistent with what we are seeing elsewhere in the Country.

I think it is reasonable to single out violence with injury and separate it and say that it is not a 26% real increase, but it is dangerous to then add it --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): You start cherry picking statistics from all the different types of survey and creating hybrid jumbled charts, which are of no real value to anybody. I can completely understand that.

Anybody else want to put some points? Linda?

Linda Duncan (Chair of the MPS/MOPAC Audit Panel): Perhaps, if I could just bring in the NHS data and the A&E statistics. How do you account for those statistics in terms of a reduction? Is it a reduction in crime? It suggests that there is a reduction in serious crime in terms of there being a reduction in the number of admissions to A&E. How much work or how does HMIC intend to get a closer grip, if you will, of the link between that and the crime survey statistics going forwards? To get a broader picture of understanding violence with injury?

Stephen Otter (HMIC): We are doing some work on this, but we are very reliant on each force providing us the information they have gathered from their partner NHS organisations. We do not collect this data nationally and it is not collected nationally by the NHS either. We are very reliant on that. What we have found, interestingly, is that not everywhere where there is an increase in violence with injury, are the A&E figures going down? In some areas, A&E figures are going up.

The problem you have with A&E figures are that there is some evidence to show that people who report into A&E or go to A&E, there are a lot of people that self-refer or take themselves to A&E. It changes over time and actually, it can be influenced by, for example, what is on the radio, what is on television. There is some very good evidence to show that people going in and reporting changes over time. What does not change, of course, is the strong data around ambulance admissions. It is complex. We are looking at this. We would really like to have a national data set if we could and it is some work we need to be doing with NHS and the Department of Health.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That is the mystery isn't it? How come VWI seems to be going up according to the crime stats, but yet these people are not presenting at hospital. Is it just because they do not want to get involved with the A&E, it is too tiring or whatever.

Stephen Otter (HMIC): We do not know. In effect, we do not think violence with injury is going up very much, if it is going up at all. It probably is going up about 2% as you have presented here. So, actually, A&E should show a stable -- not be going down. I know that there is research in the Department of Health to find out why figures in A&E go up and down so much. There are some very big peaks in A&E presentation and admission.

Believe or not, a lot is to do with -- and this is not about violence with injury, but a lot to do with what is on television. If there is something on the Archers about a particular disease, people will go to A&E because they are worried about -- this is true.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): I can believe that.

Stephen Otter (HMIC): There is some research to show that. That, of course, is not the same with violence with injury, which tends to be where you have been assaulted obviously where you would -- but it does change over time.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): I am sure there is a great study to be done about the inter-relationship between the media and various crime types. I have long been convinced that knife crime, in particular, is a fashion sensitive or vogue sensitive, media sensitive crime type. When it is out there and it is a big thing, there is a risk of contagion in people's minds; I have always thought.

Perhaps I could bring in Bernard here on VWI and what your take is on whether it has gone up, what is really going on. If it has gone up, why has it gone up. What is your feeling about all this?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): I think what HMIC say is fair. There is a danger of counting apples and pears, I realise that. It looks like it is broadly static and, as you said and Steve said, then it is clearly not increasing at the rate at which the recorded crime seems to show. I think there are a couple of other indicators, which I think Helen will talk to one, I will just mention another. If you count it slightly different ways it could add up to 20.

Number one is if you excluded violence from these figures, then actually the percentage is about 23%. I think Helen has a point about the population numbers during the period in which these figures were counted.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Of course, we all know the population of London is growing at a pace, unlike many other areas of the Country. If you look at crime data in relation to your likelihood of becoming a victim, so the number of crimes per thousand population, on the analysis that we have done, the MOPAC7 crime types, would show a fall of 22.4% of your likelihood of becoming a victim. That is the number of crimes per thousand population. It has dropped from just over 50 to just slightly under 39 per thousand population. That is another way of looking at it.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Just explain that figure again?

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Back at the baseline, for every thousand Londoners, just over 50 of them would become a victim of one of the MOPAC7 crime types.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Over a year?

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Over a year. In 2015, with the latest data that we have, bearing in mind, of course, the population of London has grown significantly in the intervening time period, just under 39 of those thousand people would be victims of a MOPAC7 crime type.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): So that is a reduction.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Exactly, of just over 22%. I suppose the message to Londoners, though clearly we want them to carry on taking all the sensible crime prevention precautions that they can, is that you are 22% less likely to be a victim of one of these crimes.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): What do you make of the statistic that the perpetrators of violence with injury are increasing in age? That seemed to be a bit odd, but given what you say about the increase in population, we have more young people everywhere. What is that all about? Why is the age of these perpetrators rising?

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): We do not have a full understanding of that, at the moment. It is a fairly recent graph. Of course, the good thing that the graph does show is that we are bringing more people to justice for violent crime, when you look at the lines across the piece. That shift in the age profile -- there are some people doing some work around the shift in the general population age profile over that time. There may have been changes in prosecution policies. It may be to do with -- remember a third of violence with injury relates to domestic abuse, so there is a whole range of factors that we really need to do some more work to understand that more fully.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Thank you. Can I bring in Keith?

Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member): Just on this point, around the changing age profile, the interesting thing is that the stats are four years ago and the age profile has grown by four years, so it would suggest to me that it is the same cohort, because 21 year olds, four years ago are now 25 year olds. Four years ago the peak was 21 year olds and now, four years later, it's 25 year olds, wouldn't that suggest it's the same cohort?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It is possible but each cohort that comes through on the whole, seems to discover that possibility. It is a possible explanation. Another one is that we have done a huge amount of work on the gangs and the gangs that we have worked on are the age range of 14 to 24.

Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member): Developing that, surely that also suggests that the good work that we are doing with the younger people is preventing them now and it is the older, more established, gang types that are continuing.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It is possible, because the other thing I think we have been trying to explain all the work we did against the gangs, which drove some of the serious crime down for three years. When it started to change, we have seen stabbings increase. We think there were three explanations, one was about the fact that some have been locked up, put in prison and then came out. It is a slightly different way of saying what Keith is saying, I think. There is that possibility, but I do not think we could prove that because we do not have the time tracking of the offenders.

Slide 9: Reduction in Assault Admissions in A&E

Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member): Could I just make one observation on slide number 8, in relation to the boroughs and the changes in the A&E admissions. We know that it is fairly plateaued, but I think Councillor O'Connell alluded to it. There has been a change in the

way that the NHS deals with A&E and there has been a more regionalisation. For instance, I would know, for a fact that in the cluster that is Redbridge, Barking and Dagenham and Havering, most of the A&Es are now directed towards Havering. That may suggest why there is an increase in Havering's A&E and a radical decrease in Redbridge's, for instance. Just as a point of explanation as to why some boroughs are looking quite bad, it may not be that it is the crime that is increasing in that area, it is because there this regionalisation approach or specialisation approach by the NHS.

Finally, just one quick question to the Metropolitan Police Force around violence with injury, obviously, you are doing some fantastic work, which is we know only resulted in a 2% increase, but could you perhaps just expand on what you have been doing around VWI?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): If Helen could talk through the domestic violence work that we have been doing. First of all, we would say that the things that have contributed to suppressing some of the violence has been around the gangs, so that has been a big percentage of the crimes. We worked out that they were responsible for around half the shootings in London and about one in four of the muggings, so this was quite a significant group. We think that has played a part.

We did reduce stop search for a while, but six months ago that we start seeing a rise in the number of stabbings, so we have changed that. Although we have not drastically gone back to where we were but we have certainly increased the amount of stop search. We say that that plays a part as well.

The third thing was we said that we would do two things on the violence, particularly around the gangs, which was not only to enforce the law, but also to divert those young people who could be diverted towards a more positive life. The 19 boroughs that we are working in, of the 32, on the gangs, then those things do seem to have contributed to some success, perhaps if Helen could talk about the domestic violence side.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Of course, people will be very clear about our position Operation Dauntless, both in providing really good support to victims, using the MARAC process and partners. The investment across London from agencies in independent domestic violence advisors and that we in the Metropolitan Police Force have specialist officers in our community safety units that deal with all types of domestic abuse, which is not something every force has invested in to that extent. They deal with all cases from the most minor to the most senior.

So, really good support to victim, risk analysis, use of all the powers available to us as well as quite recently introduce domestic violence protection orders, which can be used even when there is no opportunity to go through a criminal process, but to create some space for the victims, but also that focus on offenders. A very positive arrest policy and those professional investigations that I was talking to and the recent HMIC inspection, when it looked at the way we were dealing with domestic abuse, had some very positive comments to say about the progress that had been made in this really difficult area. Of course, we have to remember in those increases in VWI, domestic abuse is being reported at a much higher level than it ever has been in the past and that is a real success for the confidence that victims now have. Because we know for many years, they have not been coming forward and it is only when they do, and

we know about it, that we can take the necessary steps to bring offenders to justice but also, importantly, to keep victims safe.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That is extremely encouraging and interesting. On the scratching thing and not the changes in the guidelines but the changes in the way the guidelines are used, so that actually now the guidelines are properly disseminated and borne in mind by people filing the reports. Presumably, given what Stephen was just saying about the actual level of VWI, that this has not led to crimes that are not, as it were, should not probably be classified as VWI being so classified. Rather it is properly reflecting the state of affairs. If somebody has a broken skin, and they are reporting, it as a crime of violence, that presumably means that they have sustained some attack that is worth reporting.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): I took the precaution of bringing along some of the Home Office crime recording rules; not all 168 pages. When it is talking about violence with injury, it describes that:

"Where a battery results in injury, it should be recorded, even if the injury amounts to no more than grazes, scratches, abrasions, minor bruising, swellings, reddening of the skin, superficial cuts or a black eye".

So that is a violence with injury, at the lower end.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It shows how things change over time. I can recall starting in the job, which is now too long ago perhaps, a black eye used to be regarded as actual bodily harm. So, it is just an indication of how, over the time, not only the recording decisions have changed, but so has the charging decisions. Frankly, what has happened is the recording decisions have started to catch up with some of the charging decisions, because if the Crown Prosecution Service would not charge certain things then there is no point in us recording it in that way. So I am afraid it has been quite a debate over the years about what has been accepted as violence and what has not.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): What is the difference between actual bodily harm and violence with injury?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It is part of it. You have three or four basic tests. The first one is common assault, which can be verbal and you can threaten to hurt someone. If they believe that they are going to be hurt that can be an assault. Then you have actual bodily harm, so that is bodily harm of some type. Usually, shows by a graze, in the past it would have at least been a bruise, but that has changed over time. Grievous bodily harm, so that is serious bodily harm, a broken bone, a wound. We have wounding marked separately, so that is grievous bodily harm but there is a break of the skin. That has always been there. Then the final test is was there intent? If you went right along that spectrum, grievous bodily harm with intent you can go to prison for life. Common assault, less than two years, generally, even if you go to prison at all. Actual bodily harm is still quite a serious offence; it is five years' imprisonment potential; grievous bodily harm, from memory, so I could be wrong, ten years. That is the broad spectrum of the seriousness. Finally, is to do with intent. How much damage was caused and alternatively right at the end when you have a serious harm, was it intended to be caused or recklessly caused.

Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member): Just an interesting point, clearly with the new reporting standards or the new reporting styles, you may report something as a high-level crime. For instance, if someone had their pocket pinched and they were nudged in the process, that might go down as robbery, as opposed to theft. You would record it as robbery, but as I understand it, in a lot of instances in that case you would not actually be able to charge robbery. Is that the same incidence and perhaps you might be able to explain that clearer to the Mayor for me.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner): There is a fundamental difference between what you arrest someone for and what you charge them for, and as Helen says, those are not straightforward the rules and all of us who work with those rules you can end up with an undetected or an undetectable crime because you cannot get a charge out of it. You might have another crime detected. Every time they revise the rules they do change some of those, so, yes, you could, in theory, get a robbery and end up having to charge someone with theft.

Keith Prince (MOPAC Challenge Member): Is there not some mileage going forward to try to get a closer association between what someone is charged with, and what is recorded is being of a similar thing. It is like the difference between getting a yellow card and red card.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner): There is and there is a group of people from the Metropolitan Police Force and all the forces represented here who work with colleagues from HMIC, the Home Office, and others, revising the rules all the time. This is an area where there is an awful lot of interpretation required. That is why it is audited and checked.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): I think it has been a very, very good discussion about VWI and obviously some very interesting factors. Clearly, what I am taking from this is the rise is not perhaps as bad as we have thought because the CSEW figures probably reflect the truth more accurately. There are some interesting questions about why the peak age of offenders seems to be moving up, but that may be something to do with the whole issue of domestic violence and all the rest of it. Keith makes a very interesting point about maybe the cohort is just four years older, but clearly there is a challenge even if the numbers are not as bad as they look. Though, of course, the small increase that really is happening maybe also a function of, not just the change in reporting but the greater activity of the police service generally, in helping victims of domestic violence and making sure that we are available for victims of domestic violence, so that maybe another compensating fact.

Let us move on to fraud and online crime.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): This is definitely a crime that is under-reported and under-recorded and the estimates vary. The Crime Survey for England and Wales estimate the crime in the last full year to be at around 6.5 million frauds and a field trial estimated it greater than 5 million. Fewer than 600,000 of those were actually recorded by the police service. So in the range of one in ten frauds are recorded. A fraction of the 6.5 million that is estimated.

Slide 10: The increase in fraud is part of a changing face of crime.

There is a massive shift in the nature of fraud as well. If we go to the next slide, now more than two thirds, 70% of frauds are cyber-enabled fraud. Obviously, the Internet provides fraudsters the opportunity to expand their activities. We are in the era of digital fraud and more frauds are now reported in England and Wales than domestic burglaries, which makes an interesting stat.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Good God.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Although it is not the case, the level of fraud being reported to Action Fraud, and they collect all the national fraud data, is nearing the level of domestic burglary. So it is not the case in London.

Slide 11: Increased investigations against fraud and cyber-crime directly affects the MPS ability to investigate.

The Commissioner set up a unit in August 2014, so that is the organised crime command for fraud and link crime online. The Falcon Unit. You can see from a baseline of zero in June 2014, a massive increase in the number of Operation Falcon investigations, going up to around 1,000 live investigations. Also, we are seeing an increase in new crime that is being reported to the Metropolitan Police Force or disseminated to the Metropolitan Police Force.

The last chart shows that since the launch of Falcon, there has been an increase in the number of judicial outcomes for fraud and link crime online, as you can see.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Very interesting. Does anybody have any questions about online fraud and all that jazz? Jonathon?

Jonathan Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you. Clearly, there is a lot of work that has been done in relation to Operation Falcon and the work that the Business Crime Change Board has been doing elsewhere. Given the huge rise in activity here and given the ongoing migration of crime from the high street and people's homes to the Internet, is it going to be possible to sustain this kind of resource allocation?

Slide 12: Increased investigations against fraud and cyber-crime directly affects the MPS ability to investigate.

Slide

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): I believe so. The original idea behind Falcon was if you remember the discussion we had over the last 18 months where we anticipated losing a significant amount of money. Our original ambition was to put around 500 of our officers and staff into Falcon. The first tranche of that went in about 15 - 18 months ago and that was half of that number, about 250. So they have been working away and this is what you see here. Over the last year, we thought we could not add any officers but because we now know we are going to keep the £1 billion, which we thought we were going to lose, we will put more people in there.

Now, we have to have discussions about exactly how many people that will be but I expect it will be something of the order of another 250. What we are having is a presentation back to management board within the next four weeks about what they did with the first 250 they have.

So I have some top line numbers here, but we want persuading, first of all what have they discovered. We know there is a lot of this problem but what have they discovered in investigating this type of crime. Have they discovered it is mainly from abroad or is it at home? If it is at home, is it within London or elsewhere? Where is the money going? There is some talk here of £5 million being recovered, but is it all within country or how is it getting into the hands of the thief from being online. So, I would like to discover what they have found in their investigations.

The second thing we said we would do, when we get to 500 people, we would invite other partners to come in and work with us. So I would like to see people from the banks, sat there, helping share their information. Helping to share exactly what intelligence they have and hopefully to help us to turn some of these attacks around. The insurance companies, all the other people who are affected by this type of online fraud.

My bid 18 months ago was to set up a unit to which you could invest if you wanted and put someone in the room. I did not want to wait until we got that investment to start it. That is broadly, where we are. First of all the 250 went in, the second 250 I would expect to be agreed, but we then have to find them and get them trained and then secondly I would like to see other partners come and work alongside us in that room.

The only final thing to mention, it is only been now since the CSR period, is that the Chancellor announced in his announcement to CSR that there would be cyber department for the Government. We do not yet know what the detail of that is but the Metropolitan Police Service is going along to the meetings, which the first one is next week. We would like to understand what investments could be made there and whether we can either support it or benefit from it.

Jonathan Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member): That is really welcome to hear that but presumably, some of these investigations are very long term. They take a lot of time to investigate and a lot of time to unpick. You referred to some of the staff now being augmented or reviewed. Is it likely that there will be opportunities for people to see through those investigations, particularly where they are so complex throughout that time or is it going to involve new people having to come along and start again with these long-term ones?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): We are looking to the Crown Prosecution Service to see how it will develop its charging policies, so that if we try to prove every nth attack, then it could take a long time and the prosecution could be quite complex. When, in fact, if you can take representative samples it probably will achieve the same effect in terms of a sentence and we can find other remedies for the victims. The main remedy they want is to get their money back, quite often.

Of course, the final thing, what we have to invest a huge amount of time in is prevention. A lot of these will always defeat us.

Jonathan Glanz (MOPAC Challenge Member): These will have an international flavour to them. If a crime is committed outside the UK, how is it dealt with here? Is it considered to be a crime here or is it considered to be a crime in the place in which it took place.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): The short answer is, it depends, but the first thing it depends on is jurisdiction, is it a crime in wherever it is committed. The second thing is have we got an extradition treaty with that country. The third thing is, can we persuade that country to take this crime as a priority. Where we can, where within Europe, fairly straightforward. With America, then these things are fairly straightforward, but the broader that scale of international crime gets, the more complex and harder it gets, which I think is where, in time we need to have an international solution to this. One of the big things is prevention, when 90% of these attacks can be prevented by people merely updating their proprietary software and yet many people do not know that.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Is that the thing to do to update your proprietary software? I never do that. On my computer, it keeps saying, "Software update now", I always get rid of that.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): That is what we are encouraging people not to do. We are encouraging people to open that email, well provided it is a straightforward email, and actually update. Where they are sure they are putting in the right stuff, and I am trying to avoid certain names but I think we all know the types of names we are talking about. Where they are regularly updated they do seem to prevent most of the attacks, but people tend not to because they are not incentivised to.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Right, I had better go and update my stuff immediately. How do you update it?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): I think you just download the latest patch of that software.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): What about if you get a new computer?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): All you have to do, is once you are sure that the software patch is the one from your provider --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): How can you tell it is not an invitation from some cyber fraudster.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It could be, but often the companies that you deal with, will have lots of your details including your reference numbers and you can always check, often online but sometimes on a landline to ensure that that email is one from your company. Generally, they will have a reference number from your account and it will be coming in at the point at which you are expecting a refresh of your software.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): What sort of crimes are these that are being committed? Are they fraud and money -- taking money out of people's bank accounts? What are these?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): There are various types of attack they investigate. Essentially, this is about stealing money online. There are other types where they

will try to damage things online, they will try to steal ideas, steal secrets. They are the types of things people commit online, of course, trading of indecent images.

This Falcon is really about people who are trying to steal money online.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Just the sheer volume is astronomically high, is it not?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): I do not think we will arrest our way out of it. It will be prevention and, of course, systems will gradually get better. When we get our national systems better, we will have to work internationally. Certainly, at least across Europe to improve the way we do this.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Just as the Internet has changed the face of the economy, and cyber-crime is changing the face of crime, will it change the face of policing as well? So that we will eventually have -- at the moment, quite properly, we believe in having officers out on the streets and interacting with the public and creating confidence and security in that way. I have seen the statistic about there are now more cyber-frauds than burglaries. If people's real experience of crime is starting to be elsewhere than in the physical surroundings, then is that going to affect concepts of neighbourhood policing and how you create security and all that sort of thing?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner): It already has to some extent. You talk about those investigations that happen in the normal space. Every time officers go to an investigation for domestic abuse, assault, harassment, you can guarantee there is an electronic footprint to it. There is a cyberspace to it, so that change is real and is happening.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): Clearly, we have already put 250 people in, if we get to 500, the danger is I could see it could suck in 10,000 and yet we still would not significantly impact on the problem. Of course, we have not seen a reduction in the number of telephone calls we are getting from the public. We get about 4.5 million telephone calls, where generally they would expect us to attend. They do not want a cyber police officer to attend, they want somebody --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): In cyber form.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): They want somebody outside that pub with a fight or where there is report of robbery. Gradually, it will suck people into it but that is why, I think, we need to reduce the demand more initially and I do not think at this stage we can start putting thousands of officers into it.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): I have heard from the Home Office, for instance, that one of the things that the Metropolitan Police Force should be thinking about is not so much driving down crime in the conventional way we have been trying to do, but thinking more about cyber. My view is we need to do both.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner): There is a lot of work and we have a meeting of the Deputy Mayor's Business Crime Forum this afternoon, with businesses, about what we can

do about this. There is a whole piece of work around prevention that needs national join up and working across. Because at the moment it hits a number of Government departments who work in this space. If we can get some join up around that, around the prevention work and target it.

The team in Falcon, success is going to be somewhere around 25% to 30% detection rates. Some of these you will never detect in the way we work. For those who know the vagrancies of the system, we get a higher number of referrals in London, because Action Fraud -- once things are reported nationally and they are referred out, it is based on the area it is most likely to be detected ie it has a footprint. Given that we have most of the major banks and financial institutions in the UK here, we do get a disproportionate number of referrals, which is why we have been able to do some of the work we have done.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): By the time we have the 500 in, we will have the biggest cyber squad in Europe. Even with 250, it is way above what I think many forces already have. Now, I am not saying it is perfect, it needs to develop, but my point from the beginning was we need a vehicle, but I do not know whether it needs to be a tank or a bicycle. We just need to put some people in who will learn how we could better investigate this type of thing. Without a reasonable number of resources -- and it will not all be police officers in the future, there will be other skills that we will have to embed in there.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Very interesting. That is fascinating. Thank you. Let us go onto Section 2 on confidence, Stephen.

Slide 13: Overall confidence in police has increased by 7.3 per cent over the Mayoral period in respect to the 20% challenge.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): To get a flavour of the confidence picture, we wanted to see not only a reduction in MOPAC7 crimes but also that boost in confidence. If it is fair to say that overall confidence in the police has remained broadly flat over time, although we have seen an increase in the Crime Survey for England and Wales over your entire Mayoralty from about 54.8% up to 62.1%. We still have the highest level of confidence compared to similar forces, so high levels of confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force than in the Greater Manchester Police, for instance, or the West Midlands Police.

The public attitude survey, which is a larger survey, which we do not use as a way of comparing with other forces because there is no comparison, but that does show an increase as well. A slight increase but a more recent increase, peaking at 67% and it was at 63% in the base line year.

Slide 14: Confidence in the Met Police Brand improved significantly after the drop caused by London Riots from 63% to 67%.

If we move on to the next slide, which looks at the confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force and the Metropolitan Police Force brand, so to speak. It is fair to say that confidence in 2012 was at an historic low and, in fact, had been trending down for some time. Largely, post the riots and change in the leadership of Scotland Yard. It hit a low of 58% in June 2012, that climbed up to a peak of 69% but has stayed broadly well above 65% and is currently at 67%. Confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force as a brand has recovered and is broadly in line with

the figures for confidence in the local police force, whereas previously the confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force brand was lower than confidence in your local force, but that has recovered.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Am I right in thinking that the lowest point of confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force coincided with your arrival as Deputy Mayor.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): That is correct. My favourite chart of all --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): You mean to say it has been upwards all the way since you --

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Well, no it has not. As you can see, broadly speaking, it has stayed fairly flat for the last year, but there was a rapid surge in confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force from June 2012.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): It possibly coincided with Bernard's arrival?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): No, after the Deputy Mayor's arrival it surged.

Slide 15 : Confidence levels vary significantly by borough.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Unfortunately, it is not sustained. If we move on to the next slide, we are seeing significant variation on the levels of confidence by borough. So the public attitude survey can go down to a borough and even to a neighbourhood level. The gaps that we are seeing in confidence are we are seeing a gap of over 23% at the borough level and then at the neighbourhood level a greater than 30% variation in the levels of confidence.

Now, the chart here is showing and the darker the blue the higher the level of confidence, so high levels of confidence in Kensington and Chelsea, for instance. Big improvements in boroughs like Lambeth, an increase of 7%. Equally, big increases in Southwark, Greenwich and Islington, but reductions in boroughs like Harrow. That is a relatively low crime borough but a reduction of 11% in Harrow'; significant variations in the levels of confidence across London and changes in the level of confidence to be quite marked.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That is interesting. Thank you very much, Steve?

Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member): The confidence challenge always struck me as the one that was going to be more challenging. I think this has been proven and I think it is significant that we have seen an increase around about 7% over the Mayoral period. What is also commendable is that, in fact, having confidence over what has been difficult times, be it riots and other issues has been quite stable. As has been pointed out, there are variations across the boroughs, and not just across boroughs but across neighbourhoods is fair to say. You have something like a 23 percentage point range existing across boroughs, which has been pointed out. What we also need to address is quite extreme disparities across neighbourhoods.

I have some figures around showing 31% between the lowest performing neighbourhood, which actually is in one of my boroughs, North East Croydon and Kensington neighbourhood, 84%.

Now, I am aware from previous challenges we have discussed this and we talked about the plans you have had and there is a science around identifying the drivers of confidence and we know that. Quite rightly, you tasked officers to go and look at this and there have been some improvements, which have been pointed out, but really, I would like your comments around where there is room for improvement. How those borough challenges have been going on and how you plan to address these disparities between boroughs but also between neighbourhoods.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): If I said something in general and then perhaps if Helen picked up some of the detail. Two points to make, one is that whenever you mention things, in a City this size, there will be disparity and it is likely to have a broad band. When we try to get the lowest to the highest there will be a challenge there. The second thing, as Steve said, there are four broad things that we believe from all the research that drive confidence. One is engagement, second is fair treatment, third is effectiveness and the fourth of perception of anti-social behaviour. Those are the four things, we know, if we work on we will get better outcomes.

Fifth, which I would add to the list to be fair, is generally leadership. Where the leadership are most focused on it and they are doing the right things in the right order it tends to have an effect. That said, for the reason I started with, some of our areas are more challenging because no matter what the leadership, some of the histories in those areas have been challenging for 20, 30, 40 years. A local commander cannot always flick that over in terms of trust in a matter of months or even a couple of years. Helen, will tell you some of the detail.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): We have been working at both the borough and the neighbourhood level, because we know it is that local relationship that the public have with their local officers, which is so important, and what they see happening in their own communities. At a borough level, our central team led by Commander Mak Chishti goes out and visits the boroughs with a particular focus on those that are at the lower end, and we have seen some real improvements there.

In the last year the likes of Redbridge going up by 12%, Tower Hamlets by 13%, Newham by 9%, some of the boroughs that were languishing at the bottom of the table are moving their way up. In that inspection process, using the model and the theory that has been developed, what we can look at is the particular factors that are impacting on communities there, because it does vary from place to place. Some areas it is because actually the public just do not feel informed about what the Metropolitan Police Force are doing and what their local officers are doing. By becoming more open, by communicating more widely and taking every opportunity to do that, we can make a difference.

At the neighbourhood level, we have been raising the professional knowledge of those neighbourhood inspectors, those local leaders because leadership is so important. Bringing them together to work in their families, if you like, of most similar neighbourhoods, from the analysis that has been done on that to learn from each other. At the quarterly seminars that we have been having, we have covered a wide range of topics where they have brought their good practice and ideas and shared it. So around the use of digital policing, you were referencing

before, how cyber-crime might overtake the role of a neighbourhood officer. I do not think it replaces it but we see neighbourhood officers using new technology to make sure the public know that they are there and know what they are doing.

Things like the ride along scheme being very transparent and open about what we are doing. An individual constable came up with the idea of 'Rate my PC', which is officers asking members of the public, who have received a service from us, to report online their perceptions of that officer and how they did, the use of virtual ward panels as well as physical ones, using post offices as contact points. There is a real wide range of activity that is going on and it is about tailoring the solution to the needs of a particular local community; the concerns that they are raising both with us direct and through surveys.

Of course, to see a shift in the neighbourhood data, is going to take a while because I think it is four years' worth of data you need to use to have anything that is statistically significant at that level. Because we are going very local, so we need to be really consistent about that presence, about the leadership, about being effective in what we do, about communicating what we are doing and making sure that we know and are dealing with the issues of concerns to local people.

Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member): The point you made earlier about the public. They are telling us that they do not feel well informed. You have said that yourself.

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): In places, yes.

Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member): In certain places, they are saying that we are not getting the information from local officers that we require. There is a whole debate around obviously neighbourhood watch and the way the change in the local policing model is and that has moved to a distance, and I accept that. There is still a challenge in getting information out. It is still about getting effective ward panels in every ward, is making sure that neighbourhood watch is engaged, and others. They are quite traditional methods, but they are methods that need working upon, do they not?

Helen King (Assistant Commissioner): Consultation is people's preferred means of hearing from us. It is still through newsletters. One of the things that have been useful recently, people will be aware of the roll out of MetTrace. At the same time as we have gone into the 100,000 households that we now have covered by MetTrace, which is really reducing their likelihood of becoming victims of burglary. At the same time, we are taking contact details, so 60,000 of those households have given us contact details, generally email for us to keep them updated with the local work of their safer neighbourhood team. I think 46,000 of them have expressed an interest in getting involved in neighbourhood watch. Really maximising our opportunities while we are in the household, both to prevent crime but also to increase the level of engagement and knowledge they have of the work that the Metropolitan Police Force are doing.

Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member): Again, it is about visibility, which we know on the street that they actually see their PC and PCSO in each of their wards, so that visibility piece where I think it is effective. It is important to note the recovery in the Metropolitan Police Force brand post-riots, and I can say it personally from a Croydon point of view. That post-riot

period, it dropped down and you will remember this to late 50s. To bring it back up and then to continue to be resilient because another sort of point is well made, is that confidence is affected by factors that will happen outside your immediate influence. I think that is important and I often say this to borough commanders, they are getting the figures in the right direction, it is going well and then something bad happens. Significantly, either locally or nationally and then it will drop again and then you have to do that piece of work on the ground to bring those back up. That has happened there and I think we need to build upon that work locally and across London to bring that disparity --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): It is very, very important. It is very important for people's feeling of security. Can I just ask whether the BME recruitment process that Bernard, you launched, the whole idea of having London only recruiting; the changes that we have seen not just at lower levels, all levels in the force. Is that feeding through into any greater confidence in communities? Is there any evidence of that starting to work? I mean, it is a long-term project obviously.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): Two I would say at the moment. What we are seeing is higher percentages of BME candidates who have been successful to join the Metropolitan Police Force. For the last nine months, we have seen the percentage of recruits we are taking about one in three from minorities. Now, historically the height we got to was about 17%, about a sixth. I think that is a very good thing. In fact, we had a pass out parade last Friday, it was about 31% were from BME's.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Really interesting.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): Women were not quite as well represented. I think about one in three, but that represents the number of people who, by gender, who applied for the Metropolitan Police Force. That certainly seems to be having a big impact. We had a massive impact from the second language recruitment that we did. We are just about to launch another one of those.

That will carry on now, because what we know is that with the money that we are going to get, we can now set our recruitment plans for the coming financial year. Now, we have not set them yet but within the next few weeks, we will be setting those to make sure that we carry on with that recruitment profile. I cannot say definitely it has impacted yet on the confidence.

The only thing I would feed in, which is something Steve was saying. During the period of time that confidence has been measured, of course, what you have to remember is that a lot of our CSOs went. They left, we did not replace them, so I think there were about 4,500 and they went down as low as 1,700. Now, imagine to maintain those numbers and if we can work the money out we might try and increase them in succeeding years. That was quite a big change, that local contact was what local people told us quite often they saw CSOs as well as the police and both helped them to improve their trust in the Metropolitan Police Force. If we can do something there, I am sure that will help. The fact that we are maintaining and increasing the confidence despite that reduction, I think, is quite powerful, so local officers must have been working well in those areas.

Steve O'Connell (MOPAC Challenge Member): It is a fair correlation between presence of PCSOs in the neighbourhoods and confidence. I think that is important.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Good, OK. Talking of money let us move onto the final section on costs.

Slide 16: What are we trying to achieve?

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The challenge of taking 20% out of the Metropolitan Police Force's budget has been a substantial one. We estimated in 2012 around £500 million of gross savings, in fact, that has increased to £573 million and in fact will be closer to £590 million. We are obviously going to make that target because the money is not going to be there.

Now, the process by which we have made the savings is important for people to understand. It is the three Rs, reducing overheads and back office costs and the Metropolitan Police Force have that ambition of reducing the amount that is spent on the support services to policing down to 15% of the net operating expenditure. When we started it was nearer a quarter and it has now come down to just under 20%. Obviously, so halfway towards that target. It is a significant shift.

Slide 17: Reduce, Release, Reform.

Equally, to reduce the property running costs and with the help of Jane's team, who have been superb, supported by Jonathon Glanz. We have seen a massive reduction in the estate but the value of the estate has actually gone slightly up, so you can say that we have been able to reduce the estate but maintain the value of the estate and equally reduce the running costs by over £20 million. Book not bank necessarily close to £1 billion worth of cash to put back in to front line policing.

The third R, as well as reducing overheads and releasing underutilised assets is reforming the policing model and that again by looking at the supervisory ratios, which has changed. I think it started at being 1:4 or 1:4.4, now we are closer to 1:6. Also, looking at the numbers in senior ranks, I think the large majority of the saving in the reduction of ACPO ranks. Half of the saving in the ACPO ranks has come from the reductions in the Metropolitan Police Force.

Slide 18: The MPS are on track to deliver over £573m by 2015/16

If we go to the next slide, we are on track to deliver those savings. You can see a chart that looks at the savings. As it says, forecast to deliver £592 million worth of savings by the end of this Mayoral term. At the same time as taking costs out, I think there are two important things to recognise that being smart about taking costs out.

Slide 19: Y 14/15 the numbers of police recruits were the highest in 10 years

The highest number of recruits, if we go to the next slide, over the last ten years has happened, actually over this period of making savings. So, I think that the ability to recruit whilst saving money, is a sizeable achievement and we have recruited 3140 police officers in 2014/2015,

which brought the numbers back up to what you set as a commitment for me was to take the costs out but maintain police numbers at or around 32,000. That has been achieved and clearly, against the background of needing to continually recruit because of officer attrition, which has broadly stayed around the same over time as you can see. Around 1,800 officers leave each year.

Slide 20: Police numbers have been maintained alongside making almost £500m savings.

The final point I would make about police officer numbers, it is not just the numbers but how they are deployed. If we go to the last slide, it shows very clearly that there has been an increase in the number of police officers in visible roles. That has increased from 14,800 to nearly 17,000 officers are now in visible roles, on that point on visibility.

Secondly, the number of specialised police officers has increased or almost doubled, in fact, or more than doubled from 4,500 to 9,600 police officers. Importantly, the number of police officers in the back and middle office, so away from the front line has reduced substantially from over 12,000 officers to 4,500. This is something that the HMIC look at and there has been a big reduction. So not only have we maintained officer numbers, more officer numbers are serving at the front line. So, that is the picture on the police being able to actually improve service delivery despite having to make substantial savings.

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

Slide 21: Achievements.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Probably make the final slide because I think we can just reflect on some of the achievements.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): This is the moment of meditation.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): As you call it, operation juddering climax, this is the final slide of this challenge. If we look at where we are on the three Cs. On crime, confidence and costs, there are over 75,000 fewer victims of crime. I think the figures actually, that Assistant Commissioner Helen King brought out that you are 22% less likely of being a victim of MOPAC7 crime given the increase in population. So the crime rate per thousand have gone down from 50 victims per thousand Londoners now down to just a little shy of 39 is a significant improvement. We do recognise, however, the need to focus on violence with injury and I think there are other crimes that are beginning to rise. So, there is no room for complacency but there has been a significant reduction in crime.

Not the boost we wanted, but there has been a boost in public confidence both in confidence in the Metropolitan Police Force brand, but also in local policing. Again, the savings have been made but we have been able to maintain police officer numbers and ensure that more of those officers are at the frontline.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): That is terrific. 75,000 fewer victims of crime, confidence up and value for money delivered. I think that is terrific.

Any points anybody wants to make, Steve, do you want to come in on any of this? Everybody happy? Well, I think we can perhaps bring this final edition of the MOPAC Challenge to its own juddering climax by asking whether there are any final comments from Stephen or any comments?

Thank you for being so indulgent of our attempt to manipulate the statistics, by the way. We almost got away with it. Anything more from Bernard, Craig or Helen?

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): The important thing is where we end up by March of this year and quite helpful to get your understanding about the ambition around crime reduction which is probably the measure that is most in your control.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): You mean on the 19% to 20% that whole malarkey.

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): Yeah, which has been drifting a little bit away from the target.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): First of all, it is our ambition to achieve that target by May. That was the target that was set and the Home Office has differing views about targets but we think there could be a positive thing. You do not want anyone gaming these things, you want them to accurately recall what is happening. We will do our best to achieve that over the coming weeks and it is always possible. During the winter months then there is always a tendency for crime to rise slightly so we are trying to cope with that, but we will do our best over the coming weeks to achieve it. As Stephen said, within what we have not talked about is we have seen a slight rise in the theft of vehicles. You have seen it around the country, because there are new ways of stealing cars, so there is something there for us to continue to work on too.

Although Craig did not get the opportunity to speak on that particular area, he has led this huge reduction in the costs of the Metropolitan Police Force. It has been achieved by many people; MOPAC's helped obviously a huge amount as well and it has not been without some tensions.

The final thing I would remark on is that we are proud of the fact that despite losing broadly the same percentage of their grant as the rest of the country, we were the only force who managed to maintain our police officer numbers. The only sad thing we seem to be getting from the Home Office is that therefore we must have been a fat cat therefore we had more to slice.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): No, no, no. That is not what they think and if they do then they are regularly corrected.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): It is always possible to make that argument but it seems a little bit unfair given the scale of the improvements I believe we have shown we have delivered in cost reduction and maintained recruitment and maintained our numbers. Vital for the diversity of London --

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): Keeping crime falling.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe (Commissioner): -- and seeing crime fall. It has been quite a challenging period that we are talking about, certainly over the last few years. I know that your Mayoralty has extended beyond that but we have come through it positively and I think with the support of the people of London.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): I would just like to wind up, for my own part, just thanking you, Bernard, Craig, Helen and everybody in the Metropolitan Police Force for all the work that you have done over these years. I must say, I think, notwithstanding Stephen's reservations about our brilliant graph, we are almost there at 20%. 18.6% is it?

Stephen Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime): It is now 18.5%.

Boris Johnson (Mayor of London) (Chair): We have a few months left. Thank you very much everybody, thanks colleagues, thanks very much. Thank you.