

Date: Tuesday 15 October 2015
Location: The Chamber, City Hall
Hearing: MOPAC Challenge Board

Start time: 10.15am
Finish time: 11.30pm

Members:

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

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC

Guests:

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

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Well good morning everybody and apologies for starting a few minutes late. We have just come from Ealing where we were with a resident volunteer who received the, well it is the 60,000th pack of Met Trace and I know that we are looking at the challenge today and it is going to be covering the MOPAC seven crimes. But in particular starting off with burglary and robbery. So this is the, one of the quarterly performance MOPAC challenges and we are also looking not only at the MOPAC seven but also confidence. I am joined by Jonathan, Linda and Keith and obviously Helen Bailey. I am delighted also that we have Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe our Commissioner, and Assistant Commissioner Helen King. So to start of really perhaps with some scene setting on performance so over to Rebecca who will take us through some slides.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: Thank you Stephen. The first slide we see there is overall performance against the MOPAC Seven, the slide shows we are currently recording 18.7 percent reduction compared to March 2012. And of the crimes that are driving that reduction burglaries attributed 28 percent of that reduction, quite a significant amount. And theft of motor vehicle 27 percent and robbery 20 percent. So significant reductions in those high volume neighbourhood crimes. And in fact if you took out the reductions of those three crime types progress towards the 20 percent would be somewhat different. So burglary and robbery as we show later in the slide pack are crimes that have a really high impact on the victim. So it shows that we are coming down but there is continuing need for focus to achieve the target set. And we might pause there for some overall questions before moving then into burglary and robbery.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Well the first question really is we are teetering the brink of reaching the target and what confidence do we have that we are going to make the 20 percent target that we have set Sir Bernard?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think broadly we can have confidence that we will achieve it. It can't be guaranteed because obviously what happens with crime is partly in the Police's control and partly isn't frankly. But I think the evidence of the last well nearly four years is that we have made significant cuts. I expect that they can still be maintained. But we have had a slight rise in crime over the MOPAC crime, the more serious crimes over the last few months. But we have fortunately start to see that first of all plateau over the last few weeks and then start to drop again. So I think we have got some confidence there, we have to be aware of the seasonality of crime. We are coming into the darker nights which does have an effect on different crime types. But overall if we are to take the broad strategic spread, I do think we can maintain it. One of the threats obviously to our continued reduction in crime is obviously our resources and we know they are under significant threat.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): And so that is one of the biggest risks any other risks other than financial?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think that is a very significant one when we know that already we have lost 15 percent of our grant and further by Christmas we expect to lose a further 25 percent. And our funding formula is also a threatening position. So I think that is the major one and I don't think something which can take lightly. Secondly I think the obviously different crime types it is difficult to predict how things might change. So

for example theft of mobile phones increases when new models are released. So we are aware of that. I can't think of any other particular threat at the moment other than finally obviously the growth in London. So the population is expected to reach nine million by 2020. It is already significantly grown in the last 10 years, over 1 million people arrived, a quarter of the population of the UK. So those are the major threats.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): We saw, obviously we have discussed the rise in violence with injury but also beginning to see a rise in criminal damage as one of the other and what is within the polices control and what can the public do on something like criminal damage?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think you can see quite clearly the figures there was an increase of I think about the last nine months 70 percent of that increase was it appears was down to our new online reporting. So we are actually people are finding it easier to report criminal damage and often they ignore it. And that is the sad reality people take it as part of life or they claim insurance and they don't claim it, or don't record it. So it does look like part of the rise for that is down to the ease of reporting. Now I think that is a good thing, it is better that we know about crime. It is better people should find it easier to record. We have to make sure that we record it accurately of course.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay, so part of this is not necessarily that the underlying trend is going up but people are reporting.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Well I wouldn't be complacent about it because that means if 70 percent of the rise is down to online recording or reporting then obviously about a third isn't. So I think we have still got to keep an eye on that. And I often find that criminal damage is a good indicator on social behaviour. The general level of your bad behaviour in the area often sadly by young people or the police aren't counteracting that in the area then it is a symptom of a lack of control in an area. So for me that is always important. You get different types of criminal damage obviously it can happen in disputes between people who know each other. It can happen, it's a malicious act, obviously someone trying to damage someone's property very clearly. But often you can find it is a symptom of antisocial behaviour so for me it is always important that we keep an eye on that. And obviously were we can we do something about it.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay, shall we carry on and look at burglary?

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: So slide three looks at burglary and looks at the absolutely reductions which have been really very large. If you see where the latest figures are it is September 2015 there is a 24 percent reduction compared to 2008 and a 26 percent reduction since 2012. So that is 22,000 fewer burglary victims. The peak was at 96,732 in 2009. The slide also draws out the sanction detection rate which I know is sometimes an area of focus. But the point at which is currently at 8 percent. But it points out that if the Met were using taken into consideration and this is not to suggest that they should but other forces do that would be a 13 percent sanction detection rate which is the highest in the last five years. The slide also pulls out that Met scenes of crime officers attend the vast majority of burglaries, 91 percent with 58 percent attended within four hours. And if we turn over the page, you see

also as well as those absolute volumes that feeds into the likelihood that your household will be burgled which has also fallen significantly. So as a Londoner your likelihood of being burgled has reduced by 30 percent since March 2012 to August. And the user satisfaction survey to June 2015 shows that victims of burglary are more satisfied with the service provided by police than they were at the start of this Mayoral term. That is 84 percent in June 2015 compared to 81 percent in March 2012. And burglary victims are particularly satisfied with the service they received from the Met. At 80 percent satisfaction and consistently so. So it is a very strong messages about performance there.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair):

Right, keep up with the questions on burglary this is a huge success story and one of the reasons we are at the position we are I guess on MOPAC seven is because of the big drop in the level of burglary. I think it is now at the level last seen in London in 1974. A drop in by a quarter since 2012. I am just wondering we were with a resident today and the tactics all around preventing burglary from happening in the first place, target hardening, making it a hostile environment for burglars. And are there any lessons that we can learn from the success in preventing burglary that for other MOPAC seven crime types?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It is difficult sometimes to move straight over to a different crime type. So you took violence probably not as easy to make those comparisons. But certainly if you were to look at any property that, certainly for example if we are looking at criminal damage. The problem around the criminal damage if we were to apply the same level of resourcing and effort that we have to burglary is that the volume could defeat us. Is that one of the benefits of having a very significant reduction in this type of crime and a relatively few types of this crime is we can devote more resources to it, attend and do more forensic work, for example, but when it gets to criminal damage we could do the same thing but the volume could well defeat us so even now I think the number of burglaries on average per BCU, per borough, is around seven a day. Every one of those tragedy for every individual but it means that at an average of seven a day the police, we can go and attend, we can get our forensics people to attend but when you look at the criminal damage figures they are very significantly different. We do do similar things around robbery for example. When again it is the seriousness is high but the volume is low. And we have seen some reductions in robbery to. I think one of the biggest structural benefits obviously for burglary is that obviously houses are being protected themselves. A lot has been invested in protecting the home by better locks, alarms and particular always a big benefit CCTV. I think the work we have done around Smart Water but I don't know Helen is anything you would add?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: I suppose what you can see in our approach to burglary is how we have used the evidence that exists as to how you can drive it down. And there is lots of really good evidence that once a home has been burgled once it is more likely to be burgled again, as indeed are the neighbours within that street and the surrounding area particularly in the three weeks after that offence. So what we do with cocooning which is visiting the houses around the scene of a burglary to give crime prevention advice and to make them aware of what has happened. Things like Met trace has a proven track record, I suppose in a sense the success we have had in part shows the partnership we have got with the public. That once we tell people how they can make their property safer and particularly around the home then they are motivated to do that. And what we are trying very hard to do particularly as we go into the time of year when there is more crime is to make sure that we are giving the

public the information that they need. So for instance in Met trace as we visit those homes and as you say just coming up the 60,000 home that we have gone into. We are not just giving them the package and leaving them to it, we are talking them through the package as you saw this morning one of our PCSO's doing that. And at the same time we are giving advice about how to register for instance your phone and you electrical items on Immobilise which is a way that we can then trace them if they are stolen. We are issuing the little book of big scams giving advice about how you protect yourself from online fraud and other types of fraudulent activity. And we are also asking people to sign up to neighbourhood watch and to communications with that local neighbourhood team and we have had 27,000 additional people say that they want that information from their local neighbourhood team. And that is another route for us to give people the information that they need to help keep themselves safe. And I think as we move into the future that prevention agenda and Londoners acting as partners with us to help reduce crime doing the things that we know are going to work is really important.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): And that came through from this morning that this is an opportunity to engage with the public and increase their involvement and talking about neighbourhood watch and some of the other things as well. I am interested in this idea of other technologies that you would use to prevent crime and you mentioned this morning foot scanners so there are other ways, do you want to talk a little bit about that? Because it is often the same perpetrators committing these crimes many times.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: You mentioned the sanction detection rate earlier, and there are recording issues but of course we would want to be bringing more offenders to justice and putting them through the courts. The main means by which we detect burglaries at the moment is first of all getting there promptly while the intruder is still either on the premises or nearby. But the second highest way is through forensic whether that is finger prints, DNA but one area that we found less easy to do has been around footwear marks and we have got a brilliant officer who has devised a footwear scanner which means that we can take the footmarks from shoes, mainly from people in custody but also shoes that we seize when we search offenders premises. It electronically records them a bit like a finger print and then can match footwear marks that our scenes of crime officers have gathered from scenes. At the moment we have just got one footwear scanner, at Colindale. That has directly resulted in 30 sanction detections, 126 when you combine it with other analysis, in the time that we have had it. The contract has been signed and by the end of this financial year we should have a footwear scanner in all 32 of our boroughs for officers to use. And again it is putting criminals onto the back foot.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): So to speak.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: That was a very bad pun. I do apologise for that. Not deliberately done. I wish I could say it was deliberate.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is fantastic metaphor.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: I wish I could say it was deliberate. But it means that as well as increasing our chances of being able to link them to crime scenes, the smarter ones will know that when we have scanned our shoes, that they probably need to go

and buy themselves another pair of shoes if they want to go on committing crime. So we think it is a useful tool and we will continue to evaluate that but the main thing is to make it easy, efficient, time efficient for our officers and to use the technology to link forensically in a new way that we haven't really had the opportunity to do effectively before.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is very helpful. I mean one of the things we were asked this morning on our visit was whether, and this is to Sir Bernard. Bernard, if you are a victim of burglary it is a horrendous offence and I know that the new head of the Police Chiefs Council made a comment about the public not necessarily being able to expect a visit from the police. I was wondering if you could comment on that and what your approach will be.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I can say clearly I don't agree with that. And that while I am where we will go to burglaries. As I said earlier the volume of them is not such that even if we didn't attend we wouldn't save much time. So I don't think the argument is made for saving time for me someone invades your home that is a serious thing. And the risk of a murder is always there. We see often if the occupiers are in the premises then the risk of getting seriously hurt is there, in fact we saw, I think you have seen one high profile attack this week, an awful attack where a woman was attacked in her home for a number of hours, that is the risk you run when someone invades somebody's home and nobody is going to be there to intervene. So for me it is always going to be a serious offence.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Before we leave burglary and we go onto robbery, there might be some colleagues might want ask questions. But I notice there is a big range across boroughs. So we have got boroughs that are achieving seismic reductions in burglaries and others that are seeing in some cases some small increase. I am wondering if there are lessons to be learnt or thoughts about why we are seeing, and we see that for all crime types but any specific issues.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think certainly first of all you are as you suggest you are always going to see some discrepancy. There will be an inconsistency and we know our boroughs are quite different. That is what we celebrate their difference. So for example we know that at times although it is said that London can be a threat to surrounding counties equally the surrounding counties see that some of our boroughs are target rich environments. So certainly in the north we have quite a lot of ingress for burglars coming in that way. And that can fluctuate from time to time so Barnet has been the subject of a number attacks. In the West we have seen aggravated burglaries, aggravated meaning that when the person commits the burglary the occupier is usually there from defence carrying a weapon which makes it even more serious obviously. Particularly to do with things like in doing with Indian gold, and Asian gold it has been many Asian families have high volume of gold it is perceived in their homes. And some groups have been coming in from outside London and targeting them because they have either been aware or suspect that is particularly criminal offence type. So we have seen that sort of fluctuation. So you see that type of thing where the offender changes and equally obviously there are different types of protection that the home owners can provide themselves or frankly local authorities or housing associations might invest in for the future. So I think those are the major things and of course from time to time you get prolific burglars who are good at it and keep doing it until we catch them. And I know the point is made that it seems as though our detection rate is low and I am never going to say it is very high but our

detection rate is better than the average in the country on the primary detections and it is also better than our family forces. And I think that is quite a remarkable achievement although the numbers are low, I am never going to knock that given that 29 percent of the people that we arrest are foreign national offenders. They are often here on a visit and you usually need some time to detect. So against that challenge I think it has been quite a good performance to increase the primary detection rate. I would always want to do more and in our murders which we may talk about later our detection rate is around 95 percent. But that demands a team of 20 to 30 invested in one offence. And in that way we generally get very good results. We can't achieve that. We can achieve the attendance some investigation CSI's going. But not the whole team.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is very helpful. I didn't realise that you are actually the performance is better than the most similar forces, I hadn't appreciated that.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Yeah, I must admit when I had looked at it originally, obviously it is disappointing to see 8 percent.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): They are all relatively low.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Everybody is relatively low. Amongst a sea of not very good detections, the bottom line there is three ways to detect, you catch them doing it, as Helen said, forensics or we get good information from the public.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Yeah, Keith.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you, Sir Bernard you mentioned about Asian gold, which is a particular problem in my borough of Redbridge, I just wondered do the police help make a special effort to advise the relevant communities at the peak times when it is likely to happen?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): We have certainly made attempts to obviously warn people about it and obviously the press carry the actual attacks and the attempts we have made to arrest the people involved are very profound, first of all we work with surrounding forces, the intelligence about who is committing this crime. Number two we have set up ANPR operations that is the number plate recognition systems. So that if you come across the border and the main routes into London, we do our best to spot them as they come in and then we have run proactive operations where you have had surveillance on people as well as places to see if we can catch them. And that has often been borough based, so Redbridge would have running some of their own operations. But sometimes we have had to support them with some of the serious crime squads that we operate from the Yard and other places around London. It is not always easy when as you might expect people traveling in from outside London, wandering around until they find a suitable target. It is not as easy to follow them around in this big city. But we have invested an awful lot of time in that and worked with adjacent forces to minimise their impact but basically lock them up where we can.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): My point sorry, and that is excellent work as always but my point was more about prevention and maybe we would know when these seasons are when the Indians put their gold out. Do we make an effort to advise them what not to do or to take extra care or not to leave it on show or whatever?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): We do, whether we could probably do more I always accept that. I think we do quite a lot. The difficulty seems to be that people want to keep it at home. So our best advice often around jewellery is not to keep it at home, or if you are going to keep it home keep it locked away. In some of these burglaries then violence has been used to extract information about where the gold is. So that is a really difficult situation, because obviously then even if it is locked way, the persons is forced to reveal where it is and how to get it. So that has been my biggest concern about it the level of violence that we have seen with that type of crime.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Right, carry on with robbery.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: Okay, so moving onto robbery which has been another driver of the fall in overall MOPAC seven crimes. This slide here, slide five, shows the Met recorded levels of robbery between 2008 and September 2015 and it shows that in the year to August 2015 robbery has decreased by 40 percent compared to 2012. You can see the definite downward trend in this crime type. But I think particularly telling is when you compare those recorded crime levels to the reported crime levels in the crime survey of England and Wales. And across England and Wales the volume of incidents in the crime survey has reduced by over 60 percent whilst recorded crime has reduced by a third. But the crime survey in England and Wales also shows that the reporting rate for robbery has increased from 30 percent of incidents reported to the police in financial year 2011/12. To 56 percent in financial year 2014/15. So as well as this absolute fall in crimes we are relatively confident that more of the public are reporting crime so there isn't an underreporting and performance is perhaps even stronger. If you turn over the page we look at some of the demographics of victims and offenders. And it shows that victims of robbery of personal property are predominately male, but there is a slight increase in the proportion of female victims. And it shows there is a particularly interesting trend that you can see both of victims and perpetrators by age. So although the victims of robbery aged 18 and under are most represented, that is still the highest category. You can see the proportion that this represents has decreased very significantly from 34.4 percent to 23.9 percent. And similarly you have a similar pattern with the accused of robbery. With the accused individuals aged 18 and under have reduced as a proportion from 63 percent in March 2012 to 42 percent in August 2015. I thought we would pause there for some questions, particularly around that latter trend.

Jonathan Glanz, (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you it is clearly very good news that number of offences are going down as a proportion particularly for these young people but Sir Bernard you touched before about the changes in London population and not only do we have an absolute rise in population of 100,000 a year. But certainly there appear to be in many boroughs significantly larger numbers of young people. Do you think that there is anything that might be of concern underlying this statistic such as some kind of reticence in terms of

reporting as opposed to any other reason causing these statistics to come down as a percentage of the overall crime?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It is possible but I think as Rebecca explained it looks like we should have some confidence that the level of reporting has increased and our level of recording looks more accurate. So I would have thought on the whole we should be more confident in this rather than less. But it is always true that there will be a level of robbery where people don't, I was going to say admit it, but don't complain to the police for whatever reason. Sometimes they are involved in crime and that can be a reason, the crime can still be committed even if somebody has stolen from them the drug profits that they have just made and that is often a crime type that we get very little reporting off. And so it is entirely possible that there is an underreporting here but I would have thought in the whole the evidence is that in fact it has been more reported.

Jonathan Glanz, (MOPAC Challenge Member): And do you think that is because young people are more comfortable in reporting some of these crimes by some of the more modern methods that have now been introduced than perhaps had been the case.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It might be that or I think actually sometimes when we have seen spikes in robbery or theft from persons particularly around theft of phones I think people are more and more having to report it because for a start it is the only way they get the phone replaced. It is the only way they get their insurance claim paid on the whole. So I think where you see shifts in types of crime, the thing that is being stolen you can often see shifts if recording too. So it may be that that is a product of confidence or it maybe it is a product of the fact that people need to report it to get something replaced that they value.

Jonathan Glanz, (MOPAC Challenge Member): In terms of getting the message out there do you think that young people do generally understand that it is very much in their interest to do this rather than to effectively carry that cost as – not a rite of passage – but as a concern that at a certain point, as they are growing up, this is just an occupational hazard. Particularly if they know the people involved?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Yeah, well I think the evidence shows it in fact, that probably about a quarter to a third depending on where you are that the people who are attacked often know the offender. The balance is whether or not they are more trusting in the police to report it and have it investigated or they are more worried about the offender and the fact they may have to live in the same street, visit the same shops, go to the same pubs there is always that risk. So I would hope that it shows that people are generally more confident in the police to report it and do something about it rather than worry about the consequence of reporting the crime. I think it is always a difficulty in some of our estates that people will worry about the response if the victim contacts the police. But clearly 4.5 million people ring us every year and there is a level of confidence in the police that I think is significant. But there will be some areas where that is more difficult from them.

Jonathan Glanz, (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Just a question of definitions we are seeing in parts of the capital and Camden and Islington organised gangs that

are using mopeds and going in, is that essentially a robbery or a theft when they snatch possessions?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Depends really, probably more for other people's benefit than this group, but obviously the distinction is obviously that theft is stealing, the stealing of property. Whereas robbery is the threat of use of violence.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): So it depends on what ...

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It can be a fine line if somebody runs into the street and snatches it, something out of your hand is that violence or is it ... do you feel threatened? Well probably. You will certainly feel shocked. If you are hit in the face that is very clearly robbery and somewhere along that spectrum depends exactly what happens.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Yeah.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): And of course one of the difficulties with this type of moped and cycle crime we have seen. If it happens so quickly, there can be a brief connection, is that violence or not? If there is no lasting injury you might regard it as not as violent but depending on the vulnerability of the victim it will have an awful shocking effect on them. There is no doubt. So that is the distinction has there been violence or threat or violence. Or has it been a straightforward theft. The ones that everybody understands, somebody is in a wine bar, somebody wanders in takes a phone out of a bag there is no contact with the victim directly that is definitely theft from person. The person is there and there is no violence. We get into these rather grey areas when it happens on the street and it is a shocking event. So I think that is what is happening, what we are seeing in certainly Islington, Camden is this prevalence of it seems like young people getting into a crime type which is either involving a moped or a cycle racing past people in the street taking their phone and it is proving, it has proved, difficult to get involved with. Rather difficult to chase kids on cycles even in a car and then chasing mopeds we have had awful incidents where sadly at least one person had died when we were chasing after a moped, I am not saying involved in a robbery but that is what has happened. So therefore we have got to balance the risk between investigating the crime but what we have done is an awful lot of work which Helen could probably describe in those boroughs to improve our detection rate and make sure that we arrest the people and who are responsible.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): So what has been going on?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: Or course, a lot of work has been in place and Islington is the most obvious place to turn to, the boroughs affected in particular Islington, Camden and Hackney to an extent. Islington and Camden put a joint team together, actually also with the support of two detectives from the city of London police. And their approach has partly been a deterrent one out on the streets in terms of a visible presence. Strong crime prevention messages to the public, partly a more covert approach with plain clothes officers and being absolutely relentless in pursuing the individuals who have been involved in these particular crime types. The latest data from Islington at their worst these thefts from persons

which is where we saw the big volume increase back in April there were 471 of those offences in Islington alone. Over the last two months in August there were 202, in September 220, so we are beginning to see those inroads being made but it has been very challenging. We have devised some tactics with the support of roads policing and specialist officers around stopping mopeds and two wheeled bikes which for some fairly obvious reasons I won't go into detail about here. But I have met those officers and been very impressed by both their professionalism but also their innovation for how to tackle this difficult issue. But in terms of the offenders that have been causing these problems I think last time I was here I was describing this profile of generally young men, a good proportion of them being juveniles still who really are prolific and if I can say the data I got yesterday, the top 60 offenders they are targeting and that is not everybody they are looking at but the top 60 in the last 6 months have been charged with 292 offences. The most prolific is a 14 year old lad who has been charged with 37 offences. When juveniles go before the court it is very unusual for them to be remanded in custody there aren't many secure places. This individual was remitted to secure detention having breached conditions laid down upon him by the court but it is a real challenge, and I have got to say the police don't have all the answers for dealing with some of these very prolific offenders who clearly have a whole range of things going on in their lives. But the team there are working with partners as well as absolutely relentlessly pursuing these offenders who are prolific and as well as stealing property clearly at times are putting the public as well as their own lives at risk in their use of mopeds and so on as well.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think your one particular tactic that we talk about which is over the last few months both in Islington, Camden and in other parts of London we have actually put out target vehicles to be attacked. Either that things are in the vehicle that might prove attractive to thieves or alternative vehicles that might be stolen because the majority of these mopeds that have been used often are stolen. So we have actually put vehicles out, we have put beaconry on them and we have also used CCTV to actually either monitor that site or alternately within the vehicle to capture the evidence should they be attacked. Taken together that helps us to get more detections than just waiting for the offence to happen then in retrospectively trying to reactively investigate. It is a big investment of resources, because obviously at every site throughout a vehicle you have to monitor it and then we have to respond should someone attack that vehicle. But that does prove to be an effective tactic.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is very helpful. And what are the latest stats in Islington and Camden when it comes to theft?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: As I say they have made some significant inroads and theft person across the Met has from those increases that we were seeing is coming back in line and in Islington from that height of 471 offences in a month down to 200.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): 200. Okay so it has more than halved from its peak. Okay, do we want to go through the dash board then?

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: Absolutely and the dashboard will illustrate some of those trends which have been focusing the operational tactics we have just heard described. So we will move to the second page of the dashboard. As mentioned earlier the overall figures are a reduction of 18.7 percent against the MOPAC seven. The two other

crimes that are of particular note that we have just heard about there are theft of motor vehicle and theft from person. So if we look at theft of motor vehicle, this crime type has reduced by 16 percent since March 2012 but we have seen an upturn recently of 7 percent in recorded offences since January 2014. These are relatively low volume, theft of motor vehicle represents only 7 percent of all MOPAC seven, yet there is this uptick here. And if you look at the thematic map that shows the boroughs where this crime is a particular issue and in fact a quarter of all recorded offences across the Met are committed on just 6 boroughs, that is Westminster, Camden, which we have heard about, Kensington and Chelsea, Islington, Tower Hamlets and Wandsworth. And of all the boroughs that showed an increase of this crime type in the year to September 2015, those 6 boroughs were just 90 percent of that increase in volume. If we look at theft person, which is also one of those charts there. That crime type very pleasingly has reduced by 19 percent overall since March 2012. But we have seen this 7 percent increase in recorded offences since November 24, that uptick that you see on the graphs. Again lower volumes than burglary, theft persons is 10 percent of the MOPAC seven. But if you look at the geographical distribution 2 boroughs are showing that increase against the baseline Islington and Haringey which are 15 percent of all offences. And 11 percent of theft personal offences occurring in Islington which we have just discussed. So we can look, the dashboard can now focus in there on Islington and we can look at the monthly trends with Islington recording an increase as we have heard in theft person of 43 percent compared to the baseline in September 2015. But when you look at the monthly offence volume there has been a clear reduction in recorded offences on this borough from a high as we have heard from Assistant Commissioner King, of 471 in the month of April 2015 to reducing right down to 220 in September 2015. That is a drop in monthly volume of 53 percent in September compared to April which is very significant. So I will pause there to see if there are any further questions about those trends.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): Yes, thank you. Let's just talk about theft of motor vehicle to start with if we can. As Rebecca had said about 90 percent of the increase recently has been focused on 6 main boroughs. I wonder if you could talk a little bit about what initiatives you are taking to try to address the particular increase in those boroughs and what impact you expect that to have over the next 6 months.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): About 70 percent of the increase is down to two wheeled vehicles. So it is either mopeds or motorcycles. And that is then as we see drives through into the theft from person that we see certainly in Islington. So generally the impact or the attempts we have made of the ones that Helen has already described and I described in terms of trying to get on top of those people who steal these vehicles and then obviously often these are used to go and commit other crimes but some of them clearly are sold on. So they are done for profit. So it is attacking both types of crime. And then secondly you are seeing high value vehicles go, it is mentioned about range rovers and BMW's, so very high value vehicles for which there is clearly a market, even discounted for the fact that it is stolen. So we have a stolen vehicle squad and they have been targeting these areas in terms of the theft. I think Helen may be able to say a little about the funnel operation that we have run which is about first of all you target those people you know are at it and you go and investigate them and then you go and lock them up where you can prove it and we have had some good success raiding various scrap yards for example where vehicles have either been broken up or being stored. But equally there are other opportunities to catch them with a vehicle, actually driving the vehicles around. The only difficulty of catching them with a vehicle is it is great for that one offence but they often claim they were just moving it. What you are

after are the people who are making a business out of it. Because clearly they are stealing at pace and they are selling for profit.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: Yes, of course. In terms of the two wheeled vehicles mopeds and motorcycles being stolen, obviously there are two groups in a sense, there is mopeds that maybe being stolen in order to enable thefts or other offences or being joy ridden and generally they get recovered. But also those that have been stolen for parts and clearly ideally we prevent the crime in the first place so all the work in around crime prevention working with a number of councils were this is particularly problematic, so there are more secure points for mopeds and motorcycles to be attached to and clearly it is another opportunity to ask the public to help us to keep their own property safe in terms of preventing that from happening. In terms of more organised vehicle crime as well as the covert and very specialist work that is done by the likes of the stolen vehicle squad and other specialist departments a number of initiatives have been put in place one is operation Funnel Web which we have been doing jointly with forces that surround London using ANPR, covering the main routes that we know are used in order to identify vehicles that are stolen or are on false plates. And we have arrested some quite organised criminals through that way and people who we might not otherwise have identified. We also and if I use an example from Westminster who traditionally haven't seen a lot of theft of vehicle and hence have seen some big percentage increases lately because of the way they are particularly being targeted. They are seeing some of the more high value motorcycles literally being lifted and taken away in vans from parking areas and again if the public see anything like that please do ring us because we really want to know. And a team that they have put together to look at this particular type of offending has arrested 68 offenders for these thefts. And those offenders have come from all around the country including the north of England, Bournemouth, Brighton, people who are coming in to some of our boroughs were they knew they are going to be high value vehicles that they can target. So it really is quite an organised approach. And we are having to use a whole range of approaches to identify the people concerned and secure the evidence to convict them. And we have had support from some of the motor vehicle industry in terms of helping us to track vehicles and parts because sometimes these vehicles are going out of the country. Sometimes they are being taken apart for the parts to be resold because there is a lucrative market in that as well.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): That is interesting so do you get a sense that this is an underlying volume of crime that is going to move from borough to borough or as the thieves move from one part of London to another, are we just stemming the flow or are we able to get to the root cause of the theft and stop it?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): The main issue really is design of vehicles. So if the design can be improved then we will reduce the number of this type of crime. We have seen a slight – I think it is 3 percent – rise. It is a relatively small amount. But if we can get the vehicles designed so they can't be stolen that would be the big step forward. Because that is why we are seeing such a big reduction on the previous years was it was very hard to steal a vehicle without a key. Now they have found a way to do that and there are two ways to do it. We need the designers to come up with another solution. So that would be the big deterrent. There is every possibility that the thieves, until we can arrest them will continue to move around London. Where they tend to go is obviously they don't want a very long route between stealing the car and then getting them to a garage because otherwise we might catch them.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): Okay, so just moving onto the theft from person then, in terms of you talked earlier about the thefts from motorcycles and so on. And the thefts being theft from person being mixed up with the robbery number statistics.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): The proportion of motorcycle thefts, did you say it was 70 percent?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It is about 70 percent of the increase has been down to the two wheelers.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): So that is actually the theft of the motor vehicle as opposed to theft from person that is being perpetrated from a moving vehicle, a moped. So you talked earlier about the theft from person and the initiatives particularly in Islington where we have seen an increase and then in the last 6 months through concerted effort reducing that number significantly by 53 percent. My question is really how sustainable is that in the longer term? Is this something that if we stop or if we continue with the level of activity that we are currently undertaking is that going to be sustainable in terms of resources to keep this number down or are we going to start to see an increase do you believe if we take the pressure off?

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think we have got to try. There is no doubt it will take, it is hard work to sustain this effort but over 400 it was too many. That is more than 10 a day in a relatively small part of London. So they have got to be locked up. And that is what we need to keep on at. So we can't allow them to get away with it, and it is clear that when you look at the theft of the vehicles the use of them to steal from people that is just not acceptable. Now it doesn't mean that it is not easy to resolve. Because of the reasons we have said it is hard to chase these people if they are on stolen mopeds you have then not got anywhere to start with the investigation. But we have just got to determinedly work our way through them. So I don't expect us to take our foot off that, difficult as it is. We don't see it in other parts of London. So this is something unique at the moment or if not unique unusual on those three adjacent boroughs, we have got to determinedly work our way through those people who are doing it. It is not thousands doing it. It just needs sorting out really.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Keith.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): Thank you. Again Sir Bernard, I met with the Islington borough commander a few weeks ago now. And she was telling me of a very interesting initiative they do around searching abandoned garages. They cooperate with the local authority and if there is a garage that is not one that is registered to anyone but has a padlock on it they go and take the padlock off and that is a very good source of information both the finding of stolen property but also being able to track down perpetrators. I wonder whether one, whether you have any comments on that successful operation but whether you are thinking of rolling that out to other boroughs.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): To be honest it is not something I have picked up on, I don't know whether Helen had.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: No, I am not aware.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): But it is always an issue that lock up garages and lock up premises are often a place where things are stored that are stolen are otherwise people want to hide away. Equally you got to watch it is obviously privacy. And obviously we can only do it according to the law or consent. But as a general plan it sounds like quite a good idea. But I have not heard of that myself.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): No, if I can just state on that the issue there is that the borough commanders working in partnership with the local borough for the borough owned garages and if the borough has a garage that isn't allocated to anyone, so there is no invasion of anyone's privacy that should be an empty garage it is not rented to anyone. But if it has got a padlock in it, clearly someone is using it who should not be using it.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: And they had some real success with finding locations for instance stolen bikes were being taken to and then taken to bits for the parts. And there are things we can do to then trace who it was that was involved in that. So I think it was good for the council in terms of going through their properties and clearing them but we also got some great intelligence and information from it. And I know about it because that is an example that the borough commander shared at crime fighters that obviously for other boroughs it is a good prompt for them to think right is there other benefit from us doing it. So I think for me it exemplifies two things. One the importance of our relationships with local councils and with different departments within the council, whoever deals with garages they might not be a natural or an obvious ally but obviously really helpful to us. But also that sense that we work as one Met and the boroughs come together and share both the challenges they are facing. But also the good ideas that they have had, the successes that they have had so that we can share the good practise and make sure that if something works in one place and somewhere else has got a similar issue they can take that idea and use it as their own.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Thank you. Good. Shall we carry on with some more ...?

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: Yes, certainly. The next couple of slides looks at the issue of violence. And first of all we want to track the trends of recorded violence because we know and we have discussed in a number of MOPAC Challenges that that trend has been quite pronounced. We have done in this slide, we have looked back at that trend over time looking at the levels of violence with injury by rolling year to each month from March 2012 up to September 2015. And we are testing a notion here that recording increased following the publication and in fact slightly before the publication of both the interim and full reports into compliance by national crime recording standards the HMIC's report on crime data integrity. You see the line there showing the May 2015 when HMIC's interim report came out. But if you track back I think the Home Secretary announced that work beginning in June 2013 and the field work for that work coincides with the start of the trend of increase in recorded violence with injury. We see that that trend of increases is appears to be levelling off. And the point there is that the base line is that if that is a new baseline is now 17 percent higher in

September 2015 than it was in March 2012. So I will pause there so we can examine what that trend may or may not be showing.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): I think the main question here for you is whether you believe that the number in the 17 percent increase represents the increase due to improved recording in accordance with the standards or if you think there is some numbers, pluses and minuses are hidden in there that are clouding the picture. Is this our new normal that we should be benchmarking against going forwards? Or is the picture more complex than that?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think generally it started to plateau out where the recording issue has been issued. So we audit internally and in our own internal audits we went back to 14, we were showing for violence. For other offences generally we were getting either 90 odd to 100 percent accuracy on compliance. But violence was different it was down at 59 percent we were down at 59 percent in terms of accuracy by our own standards. We get to our interim report now as we sit here, it is around 92 percent. So I think there is some evidence that has got far better by our own standards and our own checking. So I think that is helpful. However what we also know is that within those figures there were some figures we know have absolutely changed. So if you look at the number of people stabbed, if you look at the number of shootings, although those are in small numbers, we have seen rises which we should I think be concerned about because they are actual numbers which generally we get reported either through hospitals or generally people will report that type of crime. So for me I think we have got to be careful yes, there is a recording issue and I think it is plateauing out but within that we have said all along we are worried about the number of stabbings and the number of people shot. Or the number of discharges of firearms even where somebody is not hit.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): So would those be the two subcategories that we are most concerned about in terms of percentage increase?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Yes certainly because they are, it is difficult to be precise about these things, what are the types of crime which are reported and best recorded. For example burglaries generally are reported. Someone's home is invaded they will tell us their cars stolen, they will generally tell us. So you get almost 100 percent reporting of that type of crime. And our recording of those of those is very, very good. Violence it can get a little more contentious depending on the circumstances of the violence but I think we have shown that we have improved that as a result of a push from the HMI to make sure that we are recording it more accurately. I think that is helping in the volume but the numbers on the stabbings and shootings are small, relatively, but of course each event is serious and could have been a murder.

Linda Duncan, (Chair of MOPAC/MPS Audit Panel): And so for each of those two categories do you see an underlying increase in volume?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Well there has been for the last three or four months we have seen a rise in the number of stabbings, and a rise in the number of fire arm discharges. So those are, having seen about four years of a third reduction in both. But we have seen a slight increase over the last few months. Which is one of the things that obviously

on the MOPAC seven feeds in when we have seen that slight rise up, it is now starting to come down again but we have seen a slight rise over that period, that three or four month period. So two things that you know that we have said that we wanted to do is first of all was to increase the amount of stop search, we had decreased it by two thirds, so we are now starting to increase it where it is legal and ethical to do so. And secondly to reinforce our gang work, which we thought both needed a reinvigoration to get on top of the shootings and the stabbings.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: I think the next slide illustrates some of those issues of the proportionality of crimes. Slide 10 shows as the commissioner says knife crime has been an area of concern and focus and many discussions in this room in recent months but this chart shows the levels of all violence with injury as opposed to the levels of knife crime with injury, none domestic abuse related, and you can see that the proportions remained fairly consistent since 2012, with levels of knife related violence with injury accounting for an average of 8 percent of offences in the rolling year period. In the year to August knife related violence with injury recorded a reduction of 6 percent compared to 2012 with non-domestic violence related injuries seeing an 11 percent increase. The patterns of offending are somewhat interesting as well, in the last year 30 percent of victims of knife crime with injury non-domestic knew the offender and that is an increase in 27 percent from the year before. And that also follows the findings from the crime survey of England and Wales on reported crime. And it shows that reporting of violence in general by victims is slightly more likely to occur if the perpetrator were a stranger rather than known to them. Offenders are most frequently known when the victims are aged between 20 and 25 but also in the 16 to 19 year old category. So that would be a moment to pause if there are any more questions on the theme of violence before turning to repeat offenders.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Well I am interested in the additional information around the offenders and the victims knowing each other and then the likelihood of reporting. Any comments from that, about that?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think it is difficult to have any precision about this, 3 percent is an increase but not a lot. So I suppose what we want is some statistical information about whether that is beyond normal variation. So I wouldn't myself and some of the other figures that you can draw some conclusions I wouldn't myself draw an awful lot of conclusion from this perhaps I am misreading it but I don't see a great deal to react to at this stage but I think one of the things we have all got to keep an eye on is obviously and this is one of the difficulties of recording of crime is that this is knife involved. So that means someone reported that there was a knife or someone on the other type reported that there was gun. The cases where you can be very precise is where someone was stabbed. You have a wound, you clearly had a knife involved. But a knife involved can be when someone believes there was a knife involved and that is what we will record. So that is why I will say this doesn't show for me the number of people who were an increased number of woundings which is very significant were a knife is involved. Somebody can use a knife to threaten somebody in a robbery and various other things. I think we just have to keep an eye on that recording issue.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): The blue line though on knife crime with injury that to me doesn't show the drop that we all talk about, it shows that it is essentially broadly flat over time. That surprises me because we always talk about knife crime dropping.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): That is why I said this is the difficulty you talk about knife involved crime which is that figure at the top, and then you talk about the actual stabbings which are the ones at the bottom and that doesn't show because of the flatness of this graph and the way it is having to deal with two sets of figures the slight rise over this last three or four months, it appears to be flat because of the scale on the left. It is just trying to accommodate two different, very big different figures. 48,000, it has had to struggle with that respect, and 3,700 on the low one. So I think that second one, this is an achievement through inefficient, they probably need to be considered on separate scales really. But you are right it is not showing the same drop overall, it is a couple 100 drop on a nearly 4000 base.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay, with stop and search what can we expect to see, we have seen the two thirds drop. Please can you amplify how you are approaching this, obviously continuing to ensure it is done properly and intelligently. But what is it focusing on areas where we are seeing greater levels of violence, what is the approach?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Primary purpose I would say, if you remember when we said we would reduce it, we didn't set a target to reduce it by X. We just said we would like to reduce it. I don't think it is wise to set targets in this area because the danger is that they get met and then we might say well why did you pick that figure, we couldn't pick an exact figure. I just knew that we were being encouraged by the Home Office to actually reduce it generally. I thought it was a wise thing to do to reduce it when we were stop searching or counting 1.4 million people a year. That seemed to be a great deal even in a city of 8.6 million people. So we didn't set a target of two thirds reduction but that is what happened over time. The difficulty is of course what we couldn't predict is when it would change. Is when we would see any negative impact of a reduction in stop search well I think we have seen that which is why we are now increasing. So we haven't set a target of X to increase to. We have set a target to increase as you suggested in those areas where there is most threat of violence with a knife.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay, so not to expect further reductions but there being increases in those areas.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): And we can only do it with the law. The law says that we have got certain restrictions, section one search, we have also increased the number of section 60 stop searches. So if you remember section 60 is where a senior police officer can put in place for a discrete period of time in a discrete geography random stop searching so that we can stop any violence or any threat in that area. Now they had reduced by over 90 percent but now we are increasing those again too. So I think the two things taken together over time will start to shift without losing the support of the public which is obviously what we don't want to do.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: What I have been very clear in my directions to the borough commanders is that this is something that I expect them to be leading locally because it has got to be in response to both local crime issue so there are some areas of London where we have seen no increase in the types of offences that this will be affected by. And you wouldn't necessarily expect to see an increase but obviously there are other areas where there

are communities really worried about the safety of their young people and so on and asking us to use stop search more. So it has got to be about the local what is happening locally. And they have also got to work with their stop search monitoring groups. So for instance in Islington that we were talking about earlier we have seen a significant increase in stop search and the monitoring group is active now in a way that it hasn't been for some time. So that we can demonstrate where we are stop searching, why we are stop searching and make sure that that conversation and sharing of information is very real and that focus on reducing violence. I have got in front of me the figures of the three months over the summer June to August compared with the three months before March to May, and across the Met the proportion of stop searches that are for weapons has increased by 2.1 percentage points from just under 13 percent of all stop searches up to nearly 15 percent. So in the figures that is demonstrating that and in that period we have seen stop search increase in 18 of the boroughs. So it is about that very local approach working with local people and local officers to drive down the kind of criminality that is putting people's lives at risk.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): When I went out with the trident team recently they were also beginning to talk to communities about the new law around knife crime possession and is that having an impact as a deterrent? Because obviously people don't, there are sanctions around gun possession such that you just don't habitually walk around with guns in our capital city but I think that is designed to have a, are we seeing an impact on the streets?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I don't think we have seen it yet. I don't think everybody is aware of it because of course if you remember with the gun it is the first offence, 18 years or over five years minimum. With this offence it is the same age range but it is the second offence so therefore they have to be caught twice. And then obviously we have to see the court sentencing in line with that guideline because there is still some discretion. But as soon as that message gets over to those who carry knives, they will go down for six months, it will have an impact I am sure. But to be fair the straight answer to your question I am not sure that message got through entirely yet, but it will be either by people like us talking about it getting reported in the media, I think what is even stronger is when their friends go to prison for six months that will get the message over very clearly don't carry knives. So I think there is a way to go yet.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): But it is a minimum six months custodial sentence if you are caught in possession of a knife the second time?

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

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Okay, Keith.

Keith Prince, (MOPAC Challenge Member): I think my question has been answered now actually thank you.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is because I read your mind. Okay then. Shall we carry on.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: So the penultimate slide looks at repeat offenders or people arrested more than once. And it shows that in the year to August 2015 18 percent of individuals arrested accounted for 38 percent of all arrests or in other words as the slide says 29,339 individuals arrested for a total of just over 82,000 offences. Offences of theft are the highest in volume. You can see that theft in kindred bar, followed by drugs and common assault. And 89 percent of repeat arrests are for a group of 20 different crime types. So we have discussed a number of times in this meeting what the issue around the volume of repeat offenders and the appropriate response. I will pause there.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): This goes back to the general theme in London that crime is coming down, the repeat offending rates in the capital are higher than the rest of the country. And I think what we really want from this information that there is a small cohort of people that repeatedly commit crime and what approach are the Met taking in gripping and making sure we deal with these small numbers of individuals who continually commit crime. What is the strategy?

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): The primary strategy is to lock them up and arrest them.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is very good news.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): But it is not meant to sound glib but that is the broad strategy is that they are out there at it all the time and they need therefore to be interrupted. And the people they are victimising need some support. So I will give you some examples of that rather than just the general, in boroughs then they will be expecting to target their local burglars where they know they are out and they have got intelligence that they are committing offences. Probably the biggest example we have is the gang work that we do. If you remember over 4,500 gang members were involved in around half the shootings. 15 percent of sexual violence. A quarter of muggings. So this relatively small cohort in a group of 8.6 million people were having a disproportionate effect on crime. So we have got 12,000 officers who's strategy is either to enforce the law i.e. they will be arrested and prosecuted or if they can particularly at the younger end is to divert them. Move them towards a more productive life than they appear to be set upon. So that is just one example of the repeat offender work. If you looked at the longer term work that we do, look at the sex offenders register, 46,000 now in the UK on that register in England and Wales. Here in London around 7,000. So we have a responsibility which I think will be more of a challenge in future years because of our resourcing issues. But we work together with probation service to monitor them in the community when they come out of prison to restrict their offending pattern were we can by monitoring them and enforcing the conditions of their parole or alternately their licensing. And we also have longer term things around very serious offenders for example drug dealers when they come out after long sentences quite often there are financial orders which have been placed on them to monitor their behaviour and regulate them in society. So they have to report purchases of homes, they have to report financial transactions, and that is another way in which we in the longer term keep an eye on frequent offenders because our experience shows us that even after someone has been in for a long term sentence drug dealers go back to drug dealing. It is what they found effective and they take the occupational hazard of a period of detention for a very lucrative period of being outside. So I think they are our broad ambitions. One is to

target them in terms of our enforcement because it is the biggest impact and they ones that are committing most crime and they deserve to have our attention. It is the most smart way of doing it. The second way we can be we will obviously work with others to divert them.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): The frustrating thing is that when we have looked at the wider criminal justice system you get that sense that the police targeting their enforcement activity that the speed with which you move to charge and with the CPS it slows down with the criminal justice system. So you arrest and the speed to charge then slows down. What work can we do to get the wider criminal justice system to help in the endeavour of gripping these people, we don't just quickly charge them and then often because of the delay they are on bail and they might commit another offence. So that is certainly broadly the frustration.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): There is a police officer is old enough to remember the police used to charge people. We were always quite quick to charge on two basis, one we were usually satisfied there was enough to put before a court and secondly it meant that they obviously could regulate the behaviour by getting bail conditions from court. Now over time obviously that is the independent prosecution decision, I am sure is broadly a good idea but it has delayed things because obviously we have to communicate with CPS. Their resources are being challenged. We had a period where for example, CPS lawyers were in the cells, not in the cells but in the cell area. But it worked really very well because and that was only five years ago were certainly during office hours you would have a lawyer sat there, officer could go with the case, they would show them the CCTV, they would show them the evidence, talk it through, get advice, if there was a gap they would work their way through that. But you would get a rapid decision and also it built the trust between the two. So even where they didn't agree they would build a relationship and over the months they would realise that the CPS advice was well founded. But I am afraid that that is now an arms-length discussion. I don't think that helps communication or trust. It is harder to transmit information between us although that is getting better I think as this month actually the ability to share digital files and digital evidence will be in hand. So that is a good thing. So those are the types of things that, because if you can't make a quick decision there is a bail and during that period the officer goes off and remains things part of which will be to build to case against the person who return on bail. So I think that has not helped it and the second thing is obviously the IT situation means that our own IT we have been challenged by but the links between the criminal justice system including the courts has been poor. So I think those things tend to mitigate against quick and effective decisions and what people generally want is speedy justice. I have to say the people who always want speedy justice to the victims quite properly. The suspect will always want high quality justice that is takes full account of all the circumstances.

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: And certainly as part of the criminal justice board we are working with the CPS and the courts around some of the delays in getting cases to trial. And a particular focus on domestic abuse there because we know one it is not fair for victims to have to wait a long time to come to trial and to have that pressure hanging over them but also their willingness to come and give evidence and for that evidence to be fresh in their memories and so on obviously fades with time as well. So one of the priorities being about bringing domestic abuse trials to court at an earlier opportunity.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): That is helpful. Shall we move on.

Rebecca Lawrence, Director of Strategy, MOPAC: Finally we thought we would return to the theme of confidence picking up on a previous MOPAC the last Performance Challenge where we looked at the variation in confidence over from the most similar neighbourhoods using the confidence comparator tool which is now being used by MOPAC and the Met and available publicly. So Deputy Mayor you set a challenge to the Met to see if they could examine the difference between the highest and lowest in confidence from the most similar neighbourhoods and we have seen since then quite a number of changes. For example in the group of neighbourhoods which share some socio-economic characteristics that are put under the header here of deprived multi-ethnic. In December 2014 this had the highest range of confidence with 25 percent separating the two most similar neighbourhoods. But this is reduced with Newham East has seen its confidence increase by 3 percent, Waltham Forest Central has seen a slight dip down by 2 percent. But Newham South has had the highest increase in confidence over the last six months of all neighbourhoods in the Met and it has seen its confidence go up from 56 percent to 64 percent. Those neighbourhoods there delineated by Southwark South West and Croydon North West the stressed urban neighbourhood group has the largest range of confidence levels and there is 24 percent difference between Southwark South West and Croydon North West, but Southwark South West has really pulled forward, pulled ahead in this period and is now highest confidence in this group. An increase of 7 percent to a very large 75 percent. The neighbourhood which has seen the biggest decrease in confidence is Enfield and North in the Green City fringe category which has seen a tailing off from 72 percent to 63 percent. But that is just a descriptor of what the data shows which is backed up with as you will be aware a wide range of activity. And is the moment to pause for questions.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Well just a comment, I went through the list of boroughs and I mentioned to you Assistant Commissioner I thought Southwark had seen significant progress and indeed is at the top of the stressed urban at 75 percent, considerably higher than Croydon North West and sharing similar socio demographic characteristics. What has been going on in Southwark where they have seen this improvement in confidence?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: What we are seeing is that really effective neighbourhood teams on the ground who know their communities, who are identifying the issues that are important to local people, doing something about them and being seen to do something about it and communicating that out. What the survey data helps us with when we break it down is to see for each neighbourhood or borough what the factors that are contributing to their confidence levels are so there are some places in London where we are seeing people really don't feel very informed about what the police are doing in which case we have got a range of initiatives and interestingly people still want to be communicated by newsletter, that is still their preferred means of communication. We use a wide range of channels but we then focus on those things that local people are telling us. In other neighbourhoods we are picking up that people have been less confident in the way that officers are dealing with drugs misuse. So again we have identified which those are and are doing work with those. But what is key I think and shines out is where you have got really committed leadership to engagement, confidence, being very public and transparent and open about what

we are doing. Then that works at every level throughout a borough. And you see that in Southwark with the borough commander and Zanda Gibson you see it in the neighbourhood inspectors who are leading those local teams. And last week we had our quarterly seminar with neighbourhood inspectors again where they work in these groups so that they are working with other inspectors from across London but who are dealing with communities that are seen as having some similarities. So again they can share ideas innovation, the things that work, how to tackle problems that they are experiencing and that drive forward. To be fair to Croydon I should probably say in the last quarter they have seen an increase in confidence of 5 percent. So although they are starting from a low baseline level they are starting to make that progress and again that is a reflection of the focus and understanding and making sure that the young officers, the new officers who are coming into neighbourhoods are very much learning what it is to be part of a community addressing the issues of concern. And being very clear with the public that this is what we are doing and being visible in the right places. And all those things that we know are important to Londoners but do use the resources that we have put into neighbourhoods that the officers and the PCSO's, the members of the special constabulary, the volunteers that really make this all happen on the ground.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): The key thing we launched the confidence clicker if you like with neighbourhood inspectors and we were very much trying to operationalise the idea that policing through better, as you say, communication, community engagement using tactics appropriately can really affect the levels of confidence in a neighbourhood. To what extent do we think that we have been able to operationalise the idea that you can drive this up, one way or the other?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: Having been to those neighbourhoods inspector seminars since they began and I think we must have had four now, something like that. I pick up that the inspectors now feel more informed both of what the data is saying but also through the work that Mak Chishty has led about neighbourhood profiles, understanding who your communities are, because they do change very quickly in London. And really the expectations that we are setting with them to take ownership of this issue and that you can affect it and I think meeting colleagues from across London which doesn't always happen as much as we would want it to opens their eyes to the opportunities that are there that they don't feel that you can't affect this. And we have seen those big improvements in some areas which reinforce that. I think one of the onuses on us is to make sure that we do leave people in those key roles, neighbourhood inspector and dedicated board officer roles long enough that they can see through the initiatives they have put in place and build those relationships because we know you can't change confidence overnight. It is a gradual process that you have to keep working at and you can understand that from the public perspective as well.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think strategically the other thing to keep an eye on is that although we remain fairly static in this confidence levels is that it appears that our family forces has actually decreased. So I think actually Manchester dropped by six percentage points in the last few months. So in a difficult environment I think we are actually showing that we have at least maintained performance rather than deteriorating, Rebecca may know actually whether or not over all positioning in England and Wales has risen, I thought it had but either way in terms of family forces the big cities, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and their surrounding area they seem to have deteriorated.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): I think the 19th. I am going to hazard a guess that you are higher on the league table, you are 19th.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): It is sad that it is considered a failing. You have got to take every success when it arrives.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): So others have gone backwards and you have risen up the league table.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): In a difficult environment we have maintained some progress let's put it that way. So we want to improve there is no challenge to that at all. I think in the market we are in we have seen an improvement.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Probably a bit unfair but I am going to ask the question anyway. I am interested that the drop in confidence in Enfield, and it is a difficult borough but it is a big drop and I was wondering if you had any thoughts? And crime also has gone a little bit backwards as well there in the sense that it is one of the boroughs that is further down the league table on MOPAC seven crimes. Any thoughts on Enfield?

Helen King, Assistant Commissioner, MPS: Sometimes when we see these drops or increases in a relatively short period, it is quite difficult to get a handle on what has caused that because of the timescales of the survey and hacking back. My best professional guess at Enfield would be that they had a number of really quite serious and high profile violent crimes and that may have dented confidence in the short term but clearly it is our role to keep building on the bedrock of relationships there and to reassure people that when a very serious crime happens that that shouldn't impact on their overall level of confidence in us. And hopefully as we bring people to justice, put them before the courts and so on for those offences it becomes clearer to people what is going on and their feelings of security can be maintained. But we can't be complacent because when it happens in a short time period like that it is not always easy to work out exactly what the driver for that has been.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think the other thing there is no doubt Enfield is a changing borough. And it gets affected by adjacent boroughs and some of the crime types are coming across the border and aren't always people in Enfield who are causing the problem. So I think there is a migration effect within across the boroughs.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Yeah, there is no doubt that also with the way welfare changes and the way that London is being the population is shifting.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): I think from my visits, I was there about four weeks ago it was evident that there were issues that they were trying to resolve which were cross border issues.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): Any further questions from anyone? I think we are coming to the end of this MOPAC Challenge. I think what is very positive about Sir Bernard, Assistant Commissioner Helen King, you think we are

going to hit the target. There are no guarantees but we are on track and having had the ski slope effect it is now flattening and we are now below the line and almost heading to the line with the last percentage point that we need.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, (Commissioner, MPS): Eddie the eagle comes to mind I don't know why.

Stephen Greenhalgh, (Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime) (Chair): I was thinking it. Slowly rising to the top of the slope and coming back down again. But we are minimising the ski slope effect. We are on track to hit the 20 percent target. It is good to recognise the sterling work that has happened particularly around burglary which without that we wouldn't be in the position to be hitting the target at all. So a focus on prevention working with neighbourhoods and with the public to prevent crime has been a spectacular success. And clearly also successes around robbery which admittedly started at a higher base but has come down substantially. I think it has been good to discuss the issues around violence with injury and knife crime and recognise that you are changing your approach to tactics like stop search to where it is needed and also I think to reflect on the importance on locking up those repeat offenders that are driving up volume crime but these are the high volume, high impact crimes. And I think there are much cause for celebration on confidence because I think that against a background and we set a target of increasing confidence but it is clear that you are rising and sustaining high levels of public confidence and that is not being seen in necessarily all our other cities and that is something to be pleased about as well. I think it would be good to make sure that we reduce the variation that we see in confidence over time. But anyway thank you very much indeed Sir Bernard, Helen and looking forward to the next one in the next quarter. Thank you very much.