

MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME



MOPAC MPS Oversight Board

1 December 2020

Quarter 2 Performance Report and Financial Position

Report by: MOPAC Director of Strategy and Chief Financial Officer

1. Performance

- 1.1. In Quarter 2 2020/21 the total number of Anti-social behaviour (ASB) calls to the Met increased by 51.4% when compared to the same quarter in 2019/20 (40,520) but decreased by 35.3% (65,178), compared to the previous quarter this year.
- 1.2. During the quarter the MPS recorded a reduction in 'ASB nuisance' calls when compared to the previous quarter (-34%, 54,369 fewer calls). However, call volumes are still much higher than the same quarter of last year (+54%, 37,344 more calls).
- 1.3. Although levels of robbery are still below those seen at the same point in 2019/20, there has been a clear increase month on month since the low in April 2020. In September there were 2,616 recorded robberies across the MPS area – an increase of 137% (n=1,511 more offences) compared to the low recorded in April 2020.
- 1.4. Sexual offences increased by 3.6% compared to Q2 2019/2020 (180 offences) and by 36.8% compared to the previous quarter (1,398 offences). A peak was recorded in July where recorded sexual offences were 66% higher than the low recorded in April.
- 1.5. Domestic abuse offences recorded by the Met increased by 10.4% compared to Q2 2019/20 (2,432 offences) and by 8.0% compared to the previous quarter (1,910 offences).
- 1.6. The Police and Crime Plan committed to increasing the number of Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs) in every London ward to at least two PCs and one PCSO (with more for the most vulnerable wards).

- 1.7. Just over three quarters (79%) of wards are achieving the target of 2 Dedicated Ward Officers and at least 1 Police Community Support Officer. Levels have remained below 80% since February 2020.
- 1.8. In September 2020, DWOs spent 11% of their time working away from their ward, although this varies widely across BCUs. This is an increase from 9% at the end of Q1 (June) and is a similar level of abstraction last seen in December 2019.

2. Finance

- 2.1. The forecast year end net revenue position is a balanced budget.
- 2.2. The detail of the revenue outturn and variances against budget are reported as part of the Quarterly Monitoring Report and the Quarter 2 report to be published 18th November 2020.
- 2.3. The key variances to be noted for the revenue outturn are as follows:

Expenditure (total of £21.3m)

- Police Officer pay and overtime – overspend of £24.1m
- Staff pay and overtime – overspend of £6.1m
- Running expenses – underspend of £47.3m

Income (total underachievement of £21.3m)

- Income – under achievement of £21.3m

- 2.4. £10m of the overspend on police officer pay is largely due to the increased officer numbers. At the end of September 2020 there were 32,766 FTE police officers in post against a funded target of 32,227, this is 539 more officers than originally budgeted. Covid-19 related issues are the main cause of police officer overtime.
- 2.5. Office overtime is due to overspend by £11.5m, this forecast is driven by mainly by Covid-19 related overtime occurring in Frontline Policing, Met Operations and Professionalism.
- 2.6. Staff pay forecasts a positive variance of £5.4, however, this is offset by an overspend of £11.4m on staff overtime caused by covering staff vacancies in Met Command and Control , Met Detention and Frontline Policing.
- 2.7. Supplies and services costs – The underspend of £(43.3)m is the result of the pausing of investments due to Covid-19 in a number of areas. Paused investments include specific initiatives such as phase 3 of the intelligence project and delivery of the Learning Management System. In addition, there will be delays to certain investments to support the Growing the Met

Programme. The MPS Management Board November 2020 meeting will decide on the progression of these projects.

- 2.8. Transport costs – the £4.5m underspend is within Specialist Operations. £3.9m of this underspend is mainly due to overseas travel for RaSP almost ceasing in the first half of the year due to COVID-19.
- 2.9. The income forecast outturn position is a £20.4m under-recovery. The majority of this is due to lower operating costs (mainly vacancies) in externally funded areas with resulting reduced receipts – predominantly £7.0m from TfL for funded officer roles, £8.8m in Aviation Policing and vacancies in Specialist Operations. In addition, Covid-19 has led to lower than anticipated receipts in assorted areas, including vehicle recovery and sporting income.
- 2.10. The key risks to flag are:
 - Due to COVID-19 the Met is anticipating a reduction of third party income. Where the income is derived from the provision of police officers, any redeployment of those officers will have to be managed within overall officer numbers. This may have an impact on the officer establishment baseline.
 - The impact of the budget pressures within Met Operations is currently reduced by underspends elsewhere. Going forward, mitigating action will need to be implemented to avoid the pressure being carried into the next financial year.
 - There are risks around further loss of policing income from provision of services to third parties (e.g. airport policing has a risk of up to £2.5m) and further cleaning costs should there be another spike this financial year.

Capital

- 2.11. Whilst all MOPAC assets owned are held within MOPAC, the capital programme is undertaken by the MPS. A summary of the forecast capital outturn position is below:
- 2.12. Table 1:Capital Forecast Outturn 2020/21

Capital Programme	Budget (£m)	Actual to Date (£m)	Forecast Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)
Property Services	201.6	68.1	137.9	-63.7
CTPHQ	33.0	3.4	24.9	-8.1
Fleet	28.4	10.8	31.2	2.8
Digital Polcing	32.7	15.1	32.7	0.0
Met Ops	3.3	0.3	3.3	0.0
Transformation	115.7	38.0	103.8	-11.9
Total Capital Expenditure	414.7	135.7	333.8	-80.9

- 2.13. The forecast underspends on the capital programme are primarily within the Property Services programme and mainly due to a need to reprofile refurbishment budgets, paused capital activity in order to finalise the assessment of the impact on the property estate of Police Officer uplift and delay in delivery of schemes due to Covid-19.
- 2.14. Both Transformation and CTPHQ have been impacted by Covid-19 and work in 2020/21 has been re-profiled or paused as a consequence.

Reserves

- 2.15. There is a proposed net £35.9m increase in the budgeted use of earmarked reserves since the Q1 report. The most significant budget increases are £15.8m for the pausing of the early recruitment of 631 officers with the budget moved to reserves to cover funding shortfall, and £13.3m to contribute to future saving targets. Appendix 3 of this report provides a detailed analysis of the changes which form part of the overall £35.9m increase.
- 2.16. MPS General Reserve balance remains unchanged at £46.6m.

Appendix – the Q2 Performance and Financial Report is available [here](#).