

Standing Together 2022-25

Priority 3 Progress Report: Strengthening Communities and Places

Executive Summary

This report provides a summary of progress against Priority 3 of the Police and Crime Plan, 'Standing Together' on Strengthening Communities and Places and is supplemented by a programme of deep dive thematic reports to the Police and Crime Panel.

Since 'Standing Together' was published in February 2022 we have seen: -

- A strengthening of GMPs approach to tackling neighbourhood crime, road danger and ASB through Operation Avro and increases in arrests and fines. We can also expect to see further improvements through the implementation of both the neighbourhood policing review, neighbourhood alert system and prevention hubs in the near future.
- GM success through the Home Officer Safer Streets fund. This has included the award-winning work in Oldham to tackle safety of women and girls on the Metrolink system – resulting in a 19% decrease in incidents on the selected stops. GM were successful in securing £2.4 million from the fund this summer – enabling further work to take place to tackle neighbourhood crime, ASB and violence against women and girls in neighbourhoods in Wigan, Manchester, Stockport, and Trafford.
- The implementation of the roads uplift programme– with the doubling of officers to the unit. GM now has a new Road Danger Reduction Plan and GMP are now accepting applications from districts for new Community Speedwatch schemes.
- Continued improvement to the policing response to retailers through the GM Retail Crime Group and campaigns on business fraud and tackling the violence and abuse of shopworkers (#shopkind).
- The launch of the Night-Time Guide as part of student welcome week in September - equipping people on what to do and where to go if they needed help on a night out. Over 5,000 guides have been distributed and this has been accompanied by a campaign on Metrolink and bus stops. Manchester City Council launched their Night-time Women's Charter and Wigan, and other places continue to pioneer night-time safety initiatives.
- A renewed focus on tackling inequality with a particular focus on addressing race and gender inequalities. GMP have put themselves forward to be a national early adopter for the APCC/NPCC Police Race Action Plan with a focus on building trust with black communities and policing and recently launched a new Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion strategy.
- Continued investment in community and voluntary grass roots activity with over £10 million pounds delegated to CSPs and £1.3 million to VCS organisations across GM.

In the next 12 months we hope to see further improvements as we implement the neighbourhood policing review, prevent hubs, safer street funds bids and new strategies on equalities and road danger reduction (to name a few). We will also need to focus on the recently published Manchester Arena Inquiry volume 2 report recommendations relating to the emergency response as well as prepare further for the upcoming Protect legislation.

A more detailed summary of progress is below.

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	You asked us to	Progress update and highlights (Feb 2022-October 2022)	How is this being delivered and metrics
1.	Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 96,327 neighbourhood crimes recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 7.1% lower than the same period in 2021. This includes personal robbery, domestic burglary, theft of and from vehicles, and theft from the person. Levels of neighbourhood crime have remained well below pre-COVID levels since 2020. • There were 20,518 ASB incidents recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 5.7% higher than the same period in 2021. Despite this, levels of ASB have fallen since the start of COVID and are roughly in line with pre-COVID levels. • All localities showing an increase in arrests. Overall arrests have increased by 60% since September 2021. • Success of Operation Avro in localities with good examples of joint activity with community safety partners. • Attendance at residential burglaries is now at 94% • Neighbourhood policing transformation is underway with a policy to protect neighbourhood policing teams from ‘abstractions’ to other duties. • A new training programme for neighbourhood teams will commence in the Autumn - focussed on problem solving with partners and professionalising neighbourhood policing. • The new Neighbourhood Alert system (community messaging) is currently being trialled in Trafford to strengthen community engagement. • GMP Prevention Hubs (focussed on neighbourhood problem solving with partners) are under development in all localities. • Wigan, Manchester, Stockport, and Trafford were all successful in their bids to the Home Office Safer Streets fund. This equates to £2.4 million of extra funding for the city region. The various bids are focussed on reducing neighbourhood crime, anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls in public spaces. • Process for the recommissioning of the GM Policing and Community Safety survey has commenced – enabling us to continue to gather views and insight about GM residents on how safe they feel where they live. We will also be 	<p>GMP Improvement Plan</p> <p>Operation Avro</p> <p>GMP Neighbourhood Policing Review</p> <p>GMP Prevention Hubs</p> <p>Safer Streets Fund bids</p> <p>Community Safety Partnerships</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Police recorded ASB incidents Neighbourhood crime</p>

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		commissioning a survey of victim experiences of accessing services and this information will be available to Community Safety partnerships.	
2.	Reduce road danger and make our transport system safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 14 road fatalities recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 6.7% lower than the same period in 2021 (although this is a difference of one fatality). There was a peak in fatalities during October to December 2021 (29 fatalities), however excluding this and COVID lockdowns there does not appear to be any long-term trend upward or downward. • The road's policing unit is on track to double in capacity with more resources and focus on tackling road danger. • Applications are now being accepted from districts to establish new Community Speedwatch schemes. This follows funding from the Deputy Mayor to support the establishment and central coordination of the GM programme. • New partnership driven Road Danger Reduction Plan approved with focus on safe behaviours, safe speeds, safe streets, safe vehicles, and efficient post collision response. • Continued partnership funding in support of the Safe Drive Stay Alive initiative – raising awareness of road dangers directly to thousands of GMs next generation of drivers. • September two day Operation Avro focus on roads and transport with 41 arrests, 406 traffic offences, 530 speeding fines and 1,500 Metrolink fines. • Between 6th February and 10th October 2022 GMP have sent 92 requests to TfGM for Clean Air Zone camera data and 53 were direct hits with evidence that has been used in 5 murder cases, 6 firearms discharges, 2 stabbings, 4 fatal road collisions, 3 high risk missing cases, 4 aggravated burglaries and more. • There were 921 transport incidents involving injury recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 11.3% lower than the same period in 2021. Although incidents remain higher than they did during COVID lockdowns, 2022 overall has seen consistently lower levels of incidents than 2022. 	<p>GMP Improvement Plan</p> <p>Road Danger Reduction Plan</p> <p>Safer Roads Partnership</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Road fatalities Transport incidents with injury</p>
3.	Make our streets and night-time economy safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Night-Time Guide/Party Safe campaign launched in student welcome week (September 2022) with advice on what to do and where to go if you need help on a night out (safe places, help points, travel advice, reporting, advice etc). 	Gender Based Violence Board

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 5,000 guides have been distributed through student welcome packs at welcome fairs and via bar, pub, and club networks. • A re-run of the guides has been requested due to demand and another push will be made to promote the guide in the run up to Christmas • Posters displayed on 99 key metro-link and bus stops with free advertising offered by TfGM • Good feedback from partners on the guide and young people. • Now working to adapt the guide content for other interested localities • Good practice from localities includes Manchester's Women's Night-time Charter aimed at employers which has 66 signatories in the first few weeks of launch and the implementation of Wigan's night-time work and Licensing SAVI. • Developing a GM CCTV strategy to drive forward collaboration and joint working between district CCTV systems. • There were 7,996 violence with injury crimes recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, roughly in line with the same period in 2021 (7,919 crimes). While there has been a rise since COVID lockdowns in 2020 and 2021, rates of police recorded violence with injury have remained roughly static since mid-2021. • There were 1,981 attendances at Greater Manchester A&E departments due to assault in May to June 2022. This is 3.9% lower than the same period in 2021. This continues a marked downwards trend, with attendances standing far below pre-COVID levels. As this data is not affected by police recorded practices, this is likely a more accurate representation of violence levels than police recorded crimes 	
4.	Improve our response to retail and business crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GM Retail Crime Steering Group is now well established (comprising of Tesco, Morrisons, Asda, Boots, the Co-op, and Confederation of Small Businesses and more) • GMP are working to a detailed action plan to improve the police response to retail crime, increase reporting, prevention and working with perpetrators. • The successful Safer Streets fund bid for Stockport incorporates retail crime - enabling us to trial new approaches around reporting and crime prevention 	GM Retail Crime Steering Group

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMP launched a new campaign work launched by GMP to tackle Business Fraud. • There were 4,023 shoplifting offences recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 18.4% higher than the same period in 2021. Despite this, shoplifting rates still stand just below pre-COVID levels in latest data. • There were 7,666 crimes flagged as business related crimes recorded by GMP in July to September 2022, 2.3% higher than the same period in 2021. Rates of business crime have risen since COVID, and now stand at pre-COVID levels. 	
5.	Invest in ways to bring communities together to improve community cohesion and deter crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.2 million delegated to CSPs for direct work with community and voluntary organisations using local processes • GM support to bring in further funding from Safer Streets, Youth Deterrence Fund including directly to the community, voluntary and social enterprise sector. • In July to September 2022, hate crimes recorded by GMP were 17.5% lower than the same period in 2021 (3,156). While levels have fallen since mid-2021, reported hate crimes still stand well above pre-COVID levels in latest data. • According to the Greater Manchester Policing and Community Safety Survey (total sample of 3,250 residents per quarter), 73.1% of residents feel that people of different backgrounds get along well in their local area. This is marginally higher than the same period in 2021 (72.4%), however levels have remained fairly static since 2019. 	Community Safety Partnerships
6	Make public spaces and venues safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 2 of the Manchester Arena Inquiry due to be released on 3 November with recommendations on the emergency services response – since the Kerslake Report and in light of evidence given at the Inquiry, GMP and GMFRS have been working on improvements to policy and practice. • The Protect Duty and new legislation are still awaited with no publication date • In anticipation of the legislation, GM local authorities and GMCA agreed to establish a post to encourage early action. Recruitment is underway. • Given the large role GMP undertakes around the policing of events they will be actively involved alongside other blue light services. • We are conscious that Publicly Accessible Locations will be linked to event venues - areas which fall outside of events and ownership but are spaces 	Protect duty Manchester Arena Attack Inquiry

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		<p>where the public may congregate and as a result could be exploited by someone wanting to cause harm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CTSAs continue to work with businesses and stakeholders across GM to promote risk assessed and target hardened environments. • National CTPHQ have launched a ProtectUK platform, ProtectUK App and ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) e-learning package. National webinars are being held to raise visibility and local authorities are encouraged to adopt these products. 	
7	Tackle inequalities within services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMP launched their new Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategy • A new performance framework for EDI with District commanders is in place – with accountability for how they use force proportionately in each locality (stop and search, use of force, use of taser etc) – with greater oversight from the centre. • Co-design of the new EDI strategy and sign off of the objectives from the GM Race Equality Panel • GMP named as national icebreaker (pilot) for engagement on the national Police Race Action Plan with plans to develop an Innovation Hub model for continual engagement with black communities, including an event that will involve this Panel • A push to strengthen Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs) including targeted recruitment. • Developed and progressed a new Force Equality Impact Assessments process for new and existing policies (such as the Transgender Search Policy) • Engagement with and development of staff networks has commenced. • The GM Gender Based Violence Delivery Plan has been approved and Priority 4a looks to address the equality of services for minority and marginalised, disabled people and older people. • The proportion of GMP's workforce (including officers, staff, and PCSOs) that are female or from an ethnic background other than White has increased in 2021/22 compared to 2020/21. GMP's workforce is 91% White (compared to 82% of GM's population) and 55% male (compared to 50% of the population). 	<p>GMP Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy</p> <p>NPCC/APCC Police Action Plan</p> <p>GM Gender Based Violence strategy</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Workforce diversity</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment is still disproportionately from White people, with 86.5% of new recruits in 2021/22 being White compared to 82% of the population. 	
8	Make our services sustainable and reduce our carbon footprint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new Blue-Light Board has been established that will consider how GMP, GMFRS and NWAS can collaborate to share estates, resources, training, and work on other common sustainability issues. GMCA using the Social Value portal on all contracts to ensure added value to communities through the investment of public funds. Encouraging opportunities for local employment, work experience, apprenticeships. 	<p>Blue-Light Collaboration</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Carbon reduction metrics are in development with GMP and GMFRS</p>