

Standing Together: Annual Report 2022 – 2023



Forewords

Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

This is my fifth annual report for police and crime, covering a broad range of work that has been achieved by working in partnership with our 10 Local Authorities, Community Safety Partnerships, Greater Manchester Police (GMP), wider public partners, the voluntary and community sector and of course with people and communities.

In October 2022, His Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service moved GMP out of ‘special measures’ recognising GMP’s improvements across the force in its leadership, culture, and performance. The Deputy Mayor and I know that there is still much more to do but I am confident that GMP is now a service that the people of Greater Manchester (GM) can have confidence in.

We have seen significant improvements in the performance of GMP in 2022/23 with support from the 10 Council Leaders and through the investment of the police precept. GMP are now 4th out of 43 forces nationally in the Home Office league table for speed of answering 999 calls. GMP are also responding to incidents quicker and solving more crimes. The police precept has also funded investment in 60 police officers dedicated to road safety, Operation Avro days of action in each locality and a new community messaging system #BeInTheLoop. The Greater Manchester police and crime precept remains among the ten lowest nationally.

Police officer numbers are now the highest they have been for many years. Since April, GMP have recruited 2,044 more police officers, bringing the additional numbers recruited since 2019 to 2,629 and total officer numbers to 8,067.

Although the foundations of a successful police force are in place, there is still some way to go and my focus on continued improvement will not waver. I will ensure the police are accountable and continue with the Police Accountability meetings, offering elected members a face-to-face opportunity to meet the Chief Constable and his leadership team and to hold them to account on matters that have been raised by their constituents.

In March 2023, GMP relaunched the neighbourhood policing model that will see an additional 264 warranted police officers posted to neighbourhood teams across GM in the next two years, creating a greater focus on police and partners working together in communities to fight crime and tackle local problems. We now have dedicated locality level prevention hubs to focus on problem solving, high demand crimes, vulnerable individuals, and community threats. I hope to see an increase in effective prevention and problem solving by GMP and community safety partners throughout the next year.

This will build on successful partnership plans such as Operation Vulcan that aims to rid Cheetham Hill and Strangeways of criminal activity. The latest figures show that since Operation Vulcan was introduced there has been almost 50% reduction crime in that area.

The Manchester Arena Inquiry (MAI) concluded in early June 2023. The MAI Mayoral Oversight Group has been established to provide assurance and oversight of the implementation of the Inquiry recommendations by GMP and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) and to seek engagement and alignment with partners in order to ensure that these recommendations are fully implemented.

I look forward to receiving the new Achieving Race Equality Report, due from GMP this September, which will follow the themes of the national Police Race Action Plan, with a focus on ensuring people experiencing racial inequalities are neither under-protected nor over-policed, and that the police service is representative and involves people in decisions. The report will consider all racial disparities but will have a stronger focus on Black and Black heritage people and communities as this is where the biggest disparities exist.

Supporting the delivery of my strategy to Reduce Gender-Based Violence, we launched a public engagement campaign called #IsThisOK? The campaign calls on men, lads and boys to help tackle and reduce gender-based violence in Greater Manchester - to understand what behaviours “are not OK”, to call it out when they see it happening or to talk about why it shouldn’t occur in the first place.

The current phase of the campaign launched with a short film, which was promoted throughout January - March and was watched 1.5m times on social media.

This has since been enhanced with a three-part film series which showed the ways men and boys can discuss, become aware, and become active allies in tackling gender-based violence. We are still promoting this series and it’s been watched over 830,000 times.

In each of my annual reports, I have stated my commitment to our frontline police officers and staff. I recognise the work they do and the risks they take every day to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and safeguard and protect the most vulnerable people in our society.

Throughout this report, you will see how Greater Manchester continues to stand together with communities, the police, local authorities, and other partners in our fight against crime and inequality.



Mayor of Greater Manchester,
Andy Burnham

Deputy Mayor for Police, Fire, Crime and Criminal Justice, Kate Green

I am delighted to introduce our annual report for 2022/23, my first since being appointed by the Mayor in January 2023.

Throughout the report we have highlighted examples of how we're achieving the cross-cutting ambitions set out in the Police and Crime Plan, 'Standing Together':

- **Tackling inequality and injustice in all its forms including gender based violence (GBV)**
- **Delivering with victims, communities, and partnerships.**

These cross-cutting themes are the bedrock for how we deliver our police and crime priorities in Greater Manchester and will remain a key focus for me.

I am very encouraged by the progress that GMP have made this year to improve their service to the public. The report provides a summary of these improvements. I give you my assurance that ensuring GMP continues to improve, and that the public receive the service that they both need and deserve, especially the most vulnerable members of our communities, remains my top priority. I share the ambition of the Chief Constable, Stephen Watson, for GMP to become the best police force in the country.

But, as the title suggests, the Standing Together plan is about more than just policing – it's about the work that we do with partners to keep people safe. So I'm delighted to be able to showcase the great work that is taking place across Greater Manchester, led by community safety partnerships working closely with local communities, to deliver a wide range of projects and initiatives to tackle crime and disorder.

This year, the report shines a light on the work that is happening in each locality and I am committed to supporting community safety partnerships to work through the challenges and opportunities they face.

In March, I held my first community safety partnership event with lead councillors, local authority chairs and officers, divisional police chief superintendents and local leaders from GMFRS. Since this event, we have established a programme of multi-agency problem-solving 'masterclass' events and I hope this will lead to further innovative problem-solving plans that will tackle crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB), building on the success of initiatives like Operation Vulcan which has seen a range of agencies working together to tackle serious organised crime that blights people's day to day lives, and other multi-agency work.

We have also been successful in securing record levels of Safer Streets funding from the Home Office, and this has helped communities in Stockport, Manchester and Wigan problem-solve and tackle neighbourhood crime and ASB in their communities. Over the course of this year we have secured over £1.6m of Safer Streets funding, taking the total received since 2020 to over £4.2million for specific areas in Greater Manchester.

GMP's new Neighbourhood Policing model, introduced in March, provides a real opportunity to strengthen the way we work together. With increases in police officer numbers, dedicated to working in communities, and the establishment of Prevention Hubs and Neighbourhood Crime Teams in each area, I am confident that the successes we have seen so far to tackle crime and ASB will continue. I welcome the monthly Operation Avro weeks of action, targeting hot spot locations and persistent problems such as speeding traffic, closure of problem premises, alcohol, drugs, environmental ASB, dangerous dogs and graffiti.

In tackling inequality and injustice, GBV remains a key area of focus. Since publishing our strategy in September 2021, we have launched the #IsThisOK? campaign which calls out sexual harassment on our streets and has so far received more than 5 million views.

With the support of council leaders and officers across Greater Manchester, the GBV board continues to drive forward our ambitious 10-year strategy. With additional investment, localities have been able to appoint extra independent domestic violence advisors, ensuring victims and their families have timely access to support when they need it. We have also been working hard to ensure there is additional help for victims who may have no recourse to public funds as well as developing a housing reciprocal to support people who need re-housing because of GBV. Recognising that men and boys can also be victims of GBV, we have been working closely with our voluntary sector to develop further refuge provision for men in Greater Manchester.

Following increased concern about spiking, we have worked with student focus groups and partners to bring together resources into a Good Night Out Guide, launched in Student Welcome Week and distributed in student welcome packs, hotels and venues, as well as on the web on student welcome pages.

I take particularly seriously my responsibility for commissioning services for victims and I am determined to ensure that services are effective and accessible to all who need them. A new 3-year multi-crime gateway service will go live in December 2023 and it has been informed by what victims of crime have told us. Ease of access, honesty, respect, good communication and listening to what victims need are the key principles which will underpin the service.

We want to make it as easy as possible for people to access the new service and we are working on a single digital platform to enable victims to access their own information and engage with the services they need at a time convenient to them, with the flexibility to engage and re-engage over time as their needs change.

Our work to tackle serious violence has continued to go from strength to strength. The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) is in its second year of a three-year funding settlement from Government which has enabled us to take a longer-term view across a range of issues and develop plans to address them. This approach has been shared at district level, ensuring that services which work can be strengthened and sustained, and are not constrained by a short-term focus. Community-led activities to support violence reduction have reached over 1,700 young people under the age of 25.

Building on this success, I'm now working with partners to develop a 10-year strategy for tackling serious violence. It will build on the strong foundation of the serious violence action plan we've had in place over the past four years and set out the long-term ambition for the continuation of this work. Strong partnerships between all our organisations and communities are at the heart of our approach to improving community safety, equality and citizen wellbeing, and our Standing Together plan. I'm proud of the work that is taking place with local communities to make a positive difference and of the many examples of dedication, commitment and passion to deliver lasting change for our communities highlighted in this report.



Deputy Mayor for Police, Fire, Crime and Criminal Justice, **Kate Green**

Section 1

Challenges and successes

Improving Greater Manchester Police (GMP)

Greater Manchester is one of the busiest police forces in the country - making up just 5% of the population but at times accounting for 10% of all police demand.

We have seen some significant improvements in the performance of Greater Manchester Police (GMP) in 2022/23 with support from the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, and the police precept.

GMP are now 4th out of 43 forces nationally in the Home Office league table for speed of answer for 999 calls. In April 2023 GMP answered 999 calls in an average of 3 seconds, compared to an average of 17 seconds in April 2022. This improvement is largely due to the investment in call handlers and ICT capabilities, supported by the precept.

GMP are also responding to incidents much sooner, attending 82% of emergency (Grade 1) incidents within the national target of 15 minutes. GMP are attending 94% of all burglaries, compared to 70% two years ago, thanks to Operation Castle. Solved rates for burglary have also improved - as they have for many other types of crime.

In the past year, GMP increased arrests for domestic abuse cases by 61%, and the solved rates has also increased, from 9.3% to 10.4%. GMP has almost doubled (49.7%) the number of arrests made for stalking and harassment in the last 12 months. Following the launch of the Greater Manchester Gender Based Violence strategy in 2022, GMP launched its plan to tackle violence against women and girls.

This included 'Operation Lioness', which focuses on preventing violent attacks and predatory behaviour towards women, whether it be in the home, in public spaces or online. This demonstrates a continued and targeted focus by GMP to support and safeguard victims of these crimes.

With the aid of the precept, the roads and transport unit has doubled in officer strength this year, and the unit has stepped up work on tackling road and transport related offences with partners. In September 2022 the transport and roads Operation Avro resulted in 1,189 Metrolink fines, 41 arrests, 70 seized vehicles, 3 court summons, 405 traffic offences and 530 speed offences.



Neighbourhood policing, prevention and problem solving

In March 2023, GMP relaunched its neighbourhood policing model that will see an additional 264 warranted police officers posted to neighbourhood teams across Greater Manchester in the next 2 years, creating a greater focus on police and partner agencies working together in communities to fight crime and tackle local problems.

This rebalance of resources will see an uplift in the number of Neighbourhood Police Constables from 476 to 740.

This investment has also enabled GMP to professionalise neighbourhood policing through a programme of training, changes in shift patterns to align with partners, and the introduction of a new community messaging system 'Bee in the Loop' – enabling residents to sign up to live updates.

Alongside neighbourhood policing, GMP has established dedicated locality level prevention hubs to focus on problem solving, high demand crimes, vulnerable individuals, and community threats. The hubs will work alongside dedicated neighbourhood crime teams to proactively investigate and target activity. This builds on successful multi-agency initiatives, including Operation Vulcan that aims to rid Cheetham Hill and Strangeways of criminal activity. There is still more work to do, but the latest figures show that, since Operation Vulcan was introduced, there has been almost 50% reduction crime in the area, including violence with injury.

Measure	2021/22	2022/23	Change
Reported anti-social behaviour (ASB)	72,299	71,988	-0.4%
Total recorded crime	351,675	372,446	5.9%
Neighbourhood crime	53,292	52,689	-1.1%
Violence with injury	31,016	30,978	-0.1%
Domestic abuse	63,969	67,890	6.1%
Mental health incidents (following triage)	18,631	19,160	2.8%
Recorded hate crime	13,164	11,658	-11.4%



What residents have told us

It is important that we don't only consider statistics alone. How safe residents feel is the ultimate test of whether the work we are doing is making a difference to local people.

The Deputy Mayor commissions an on-going survey of residents in order to understand how safe they feel, their experiences of crime and their satisfaction with services.

Almost 49,000 Greater Manchester residents have responded to a quarterly survey on policing and community safety, which was first commissioned by the Deputy Mayor in 2019.

This information helps shape how Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and GMP work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and is an important feature of their decision-making and allocation of resources to tackle the problems that matter most to local people.

89% of people who responded to the survey said they felt safe in their local area, a small improvement on the previous year.

The main reasons for feeling safe were a lack of personal experiences of problems (22% of those who felt safe), quiet/pleasant neighbourhoods (19%), and a sense of community in the local area (17%).

The main reasons for not feeling safe were an awareness of anti-social behaviour (38% of those who felt unsafe) and crime (33%).

HMICFRS Inspections

In 2020, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) undertook a detailed inspection of GMP and reported that a fifth of reported crimes weren't being recorded by the police and that victims were being let down. This led to GMP being placed into special measures.

The Mayor and former Deputy Mayor found a number of cultural and systemic issues within the force, which prompted the start of a significant improvement journey. This commenced with the appointment of Stephen Watson as Chief Constable in 2021.

In October 2022, GMP was taken out of special measures and is considered to be the most improved police force in the country. Crime recording has increased, along with improved standards of investigations and solved outcomes – resulting in a much-improved service for victims and the public.

There is still much work to do to drive further improvements, and recent HMICFRS inspections into serious youth violence, police custody and online child exploitation provide an acute reminder of the challenges faced by the police service and other partners as we strive to protect and secure our communities.

Action in response to recommendations made by HMICFRS is monitored by the Deputy Mayor and GMP. The Deputy Mayor's response to each report can be found on the GMCA website: greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/police-and-fire/documents/

Future challenges

Whilst GMP have made good progress in the past year, they continue to strive for further improvement. There are several areas where challenges remain.

Workforce

GMP recruited 2,044 Officers during April 2021 – March 2023, giving the Force a net growth of 932 officers during this period. Since 2019, GMP have recruited 2629 more police officers, bringing their total number to 8,067.

This is a great opportunity for Greater Manchester, but it is not without its challenges. Much work is required to ensure that these officers are vetted, well trained and supervised, and have the right approach to the job. It will take some time for student officers to be posted in the right teams and to make a difference on the ground.

In 2022, 53% of new recruits were female and 8.7% Asian. Whilst GMP continue to make good progress in recruiting female and Asian officers, recruitment of Black officers remains poor at just 1% of new recruits, and this must be a priority for the year ahead.

As the Baroness Casey review into police misconduct in London has shown, we must also ensure that all police officers are working to the cultures, ethics, and standards that the public expects. Like all forces, this is a challenge for GMP, and will remain so for the year ahead.

Arrests

In February 2023, GMP received HMICFRS's report following an inspection of custody services, and this highlighted some causes of concern. They included key concerns over leadership, legal compliance, the use of force, detainee dignity, risk management and medicine management.

GMP are working to address these concerns and will be re-inspected by the autumn of 2023.

As GMP arrest more people, the Deputy Mayor will continue to challenge whether GMP are using their powers proportionately and in the most appropriate way.

Non-crime work

As little as 37% of police work is directly linked to crime but as much as 63% could be viewed as non-crime demand that didn't necessarily require a police officer to attend, such as concerns for welfare or people experiencing poor mental health. Partnership working and problem solving therefore remains critical and we must work together to find solutions that put the people of Greater Manchester first.



Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Services (GMFRS)

In 2022/23, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) continued to successfully deliver the priorities set out in the Fire Plan. This is documented in more detail in the GMFRS [Annual Delivery Report for 2022/23 – Annual Delivery Report - Greater Manchester Fire Rescue Service](#) and in this report, we highlight how the Service’s work supports the Standing Together plan.

The Service has made significant progress in a number of areas, including the ongoing improvements to culture; the region’s response to terrorist attacks; and engagement with communities to reduce risks and improve lives. HMICFRS has removed its cause of concern around this capability.

Culture and public confidence

In recent months, the culture of fire and rescue services has been under scrutiny, which has impacted on public confidence.

GMFRS started on its journey of improvement several years ago and these initiatives are now starting to pay off. Positive attraction work has continued across the region, with a specific focus on women. This targeted recruitment has been successful, with more than 22% of this year’s firefighter recruits coming from traditionally underrepresented groups. GMFRS has also established new platforms for colleague engagement and feedback and has made opportunities for promotion fairer and more inclusive.

This year has seen external recognition of the Service’s work to improve its culture. In its 2022 Ofsted inspection for apprentice provision, GMFRS was graded as Outstanding for Behaviour and Attitudes, and for Personal Development; with an overall grade of Good.

GMFRS moved up 43 places to 50th position on Stonewall’s Top 100 list for leading LGBTQ+ inclusive employers, as well as winning a Gold Employer award in recognition of its commitment to inclusion.

The GMFRS Rainbow Staff Network won ‘Network Group of the Year’ at the Stonewall Awards beating more than 900 other organisations and teams.

Whilst external recognition of the Service’s work to improve culture has helped provide assurance on progress so far, there is still more to do. Improving culture is not a time-limited project but an ongoing commitment to our people and communities, a promise to create a workplace where everyone feels welcome, safe and respected. A “culture first” approach has been introduced at GMFRS, which will continue to drive positive change over the coming years.

Emergency response

As well as prioritising culture improvement, GMFRS has continued to focus on driving excellence in the delivery of its core functions. The faster GMFRS arrives at an incident, the quicker they can rescue people, provide first aid, and limit damage to property and the environment, working with other blue-light services. In 2022/23, the Service’s average response time to life risk emergencies was 7 minutes 21 seconds, nine seconds faster than the target.

Training and development

Thanks to an investment of £5.3 million, the new Training and Safety Centre in Bury is now complete. It is an immersive, state-of-the-art facility, delivering operational and incident command training alongside continuous development of our fire crews, ensuring GMFRS is better prepared and fit for the future. As part of its investment in skills, all GMFRS firefighters are now being trained and equipped to respond to marauding terrorist attacks and other emergencies involving large numbers of casualties.

Case Study: Terrorist attack response

In partnership with the Fire Brigades Union, GMFRS embarked on an intensive project to improve its response to marauding terrorist attacks and high casualty incidents. Firefighters have been trained, and every fire engine equipped, to respond quickly and effectively alongside Police and Ambulance colleagues. GMFRS has introduced enhanced trauma equipment including fast evacuation stretchers and additional personal protective equipment.

This project delivers on a key recommendation from the Manchester Arena Inquiry and has been successfully completed through collaboration between teams from across services, under the scrutiny of His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services who have now removed their cause of concern.

GMFRS will continue to provide training and undertake large-scale exercises alongside its blue-light partners to further develop its capability, in accordance with the Joint Emergency Services Operating Principles.

Community engagement and risk reduction

Preventing emergencies continues to be the most efficient and effective way of saving lives and reducing damage to property and the environment. Following the launch of a new online tool, almost 24,000 home fire safety checks have been completed this year. These support residents to complete an assessment of fire risk in their home and receive a visit from safety officers if required. This is part of a targeted approach that has allowed the Service to focus resources on the most vulnerable.

In 2021/22, more people drowned in Greater Manchester than died in fires. To help improve water safety across the region, GMFRS hosted a Greater Manchester Water Safety Summit in September. At the summit, partners committed to form a Greater Manchester Water Safety Partnership.

A dedicated water safety officer role has also now been created in GMFRS to drive this integrated work forward.

GMFRS launched a new adult fire setters intervention pilot this year. The Atlas Programme has been designed in collaboration with clinical psychologists and universities. It is the first of its kind in the world and works to deter those with a history of fire-setting by providing fire safety awareness embedded in a holistic and therapeutic framework. The Service’s targeted prevention work has also supported residents impacted by the cost of living crisis.





Case study: Cost of living

The inequalities exposed and exacerbated by the pandemic have continued to demand focussed resources on the most vulnerable in our communities. As well as supporting the Greater Manchester-wide cost of living campaign, GMFRS has created bespoke campaigns and activities targeted to those at increased risk.

The Service created a Cost of Living Response Group, feeding into wider Greater Manchester partnership work. It has utilised incident data, local authority fuel poverty data and resident insight to identify and target prevention activities at those groups likely to be at increased risk from unsafe behaviours related to cost-of-living pressures. As well as signposting residents to the different support measures available to our communities, GMFRS created a number of resources providing advice and guidance on saving energy; safely heating the home; and cooking, candle and electric fire safety.

GMFRS provided toolkits to partners to help them refer residents to its home fire safety assessments (HFSAs). This was done in tandem with the prioritising of HFSAs using data and risk analysis to ensure visits were targeted at the most vulnerable.

The Service also provided warm spaces for residents unable to heat their homes or looking for company and support.

For instance, in partnership with Bolton Council, GMFRS welcomed members of the community into Farnworth Fire Station to meet up and keep warm. Crews also helped people complete a Home Fire Safety Check, which led to a home visit or additional fire safety advice.

With the help of these focused activities, GMFRS has prevented the rise in the number of accidental house fires that had been expected during the cost of living crisis - and has even managed to drive them down slightly.

Protection of the built environment

GMFRS has statutory responsibilities regarding the safety of our built environment. The Service has used Home Office funding to create a dedicated Protection Training and Development suite. This new learning facility has two training rooms and dedicated interview facilities for people under caution. It can accommodate a range of fire safety training and competency assessments, which include the use of virtual reality headsets.

The Service has increased the number of specialists in fire safety to conduct inspections and investigations, support building design and construction, train firefighters, and deliver the increased responsibilities that come with the new fire safety regulations.

Over the last year, GMFRS has undertaken significant business engagement, delivering advice to almost 8,500 businesses covering 39,000 premises. Protection teams have expanded their Primary Authority offer to new partners, generating £79,000 of additional income.

GMFRS has also actively supported Operation Vulcan, working with GMP to tackle organised crime in the Cheetham Hill and Strangeways area of Manchester. This has resulted in a significant number of Prohibition Notices to prevent dangerous buildings being accessed by the public.



Section 2

Working together to achieve our priorities

The three priorities of the refreshed Police and Crime Plan (2022- 25) continue to shape the delivery of schemes and projects. Our priorities are:

- **Keeping people safe and supporting victims**
- **Reducing harm and offending**
- **Strengthening communities and places**

Priority 1:

Keeping people safe and supporting victims

Protecting and caring for people who live, work, socialise and travel in Greater Manchester. Protecting those who are vulnerable and those who are victims of crime or at risk of being victimised. Building resilience, feelings of safety and confidence in policing and community safety.

Violence Reduction Unit (VRU):

Greater Manchester VRU is a team of subject leads and experts from GMP, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), Greater Manchester National Probation Service, public health, NHS, education, community voluntary sector, victims' voice, youth justice and local authorities, addressing the underlying causes of violence and working together with communities to prevent it.

In July 2020, the VRU launched its Serious Violence Action Plan, which sets out seven priorities for the unit and the framework through which serious violence will be addressed.

These priorities and commitments were developed following extensive community engagement in 2019 across all 10 districts of Greater Manchester. Researchers spoke to people in the street, on public transport, in pubs, at community centres and in sports clubs, to gauge what concerns they had about violence in their community, their experiences of violent crime and what they wanted a newly formed VRU to do in response. The researchers also worked in schools, colleges, pupil referral units, youth justice teams and youth clubs to capture the voices of children and young people, as well as professionals working with them. In total, the team engaged with over 600 residents and over 300 schools and colleges.

Priorities of the Serious Violence Action Plan

1. **Improve criminal justice response**
2. **Provide interventions in areas of highest need**
3. **Support for families and communities**
4. **Support for victims**
5. **Maintain a dedicated VRU**
6. **Implement place-based approach**
7. **Collaborate with schools, colleges and alternative provision**

In May 2023, the VRU published its annual report which showed:

- **A 17% reduction in hospital admissions due to assault by a sharp object among victims aged under 25 compared to 2021**
- **Homicides down by 27% compared to 2021**
- **Knife-enabled homicides down by 19% compared to 2021**
- **More than 10,000 young people involved in prevention activities**
- **Over 1,129 young people involved in community sport through VRU and Greater Sport partnership**
- **Over 800 total referrals to the Navigator service to help young people cope and recover from their experience of violence**

Later this year, the VRU will publish its first Violence Reduction Strategy to set out its ambitions to reduce violence in Greater Manchester and to ensure we have clarity over our priorities to achieve this.

Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA), data and partner engagement

In March 2023, the VRU produced an SNA. This is a multi-agency report, aiming to provide an overview to our communities and partners about our knowledge and understanding of violence across Greater Manchester, the risk and protective factors for why violence occurs and how to prevent it.



A 'public health' approach to violence prevention and reduction underpins this assessment. It considers what the data tells us, listens to the voice of local people and communities, assesses the published evidence, and gathers good practice from other areas and within Greater Manchester.

The SNA will help us ensure that our approach to violence is based on sound evidence, understanding and insight.

Community-led approach to violence reduction

By working with communities and collaborating with residents, we can develop programmes and initiatives that best fit local needs.

The community-led approach to violence reduction means the VRU works closely with communities to understand the strengths, challenges and needs of the community and determine how local investments will be made.

All ten localities are now fully engaged in the programme. The VRU have recruited Violence Reduction Alliance Facilitators in each local authority area to support community engagement, co-production, and sustainability. To date, over 1,700 young people aged 24 and under have been reached by VRU programmes.

Primary school transitions

Salford Foundation have been delivering Blocks with young people in primary schools in North Manchester since November 2022. They are currently working with ten primary schools, providing support to 116 young people on a weekly or fortnightly basis. Children on the programme have been identified by the school as of concern in relation to their transition to secondary school, and in need of additional support to facilitate this and minimise risk of for example exclusion/disengagement from education, involvement in ASB and criminality, and disruptive behaviour; and support to improve family relationships, increase ability to understand and regulate emotions, improve ability to make informed decisions, and enhance self-esteem.

Just over a quarter of the young people accessing Blocks are girls. 51% of all young people on the programme are from white British backgrounds, with 15% from multiple ethnic backgrounds, 7% Pakistani backgrounds and 7% from Black/African/Caribbean backgrounds.

The Blocks programme provides a strengths-based, non-stigmatised style of mentoring, using 1:1 delivery to provide a social/emotional skills programme, tailored to the young people, based on four key themes - Identity, Relationships, Environments and Future. The mentor meets the young person on a weekly or fortnightly basis, for a minimum 6-month period.

The programme has already identified a number of interrelated issues arising with the young people they are supporting, including community violence, low self esteem, poor attendance at school and overcrowded housing. Although the Blocks programme cannot directly resolve all of these issues, it can provide a structured way for the young people to work through how those issues are affecting them and identify ways to support developing coping strategies and emotional regulation. As one young person on the Blocks programme said,

“My sessions have helped me understand more about my emotions. I think this is important because it means I can deal with them a lot better and not get into fights.”

Sports and activity strategy

Sport is energetic, inclusive and enjoyable, can also transform lives and broaden ambitions. Sport teaches key skills such as teamwork, understanding and self-discipline, brings people together, creates pride in a community, breaks down social boundaries, and inspires people to make a difference in their own lives and for others. Through sport, we can empower young people to kick-start a cycle of positive change that echoes throughout their entire community.

StreetGames have been working in partnership with the Greater Manchester VRU to support organisations within the community-led programmes, deliver workforce development opportunities, and more recently complete a regional mapping piece. This work is highlighting the role that sport can play in young people’s lives, but also the positive impact that it can make on individuals and local communities.



StreetGamesUK was appointed the VRU strategic delivery partner for 2022-2025 to bring about:

- **More sport in more places - grow the number of high-quality sport provision in Greater Manchester’s most deprived and vulnerable communities to contribute to the prevention of violence.**
- **More workforce with more competencies - enhance the confidence, competence, and capacity of the sport workforce to ensure high quality delivery which is pro-social in its approach and embeds the principles of trauma informed practice.**
- **More vulnerable young people referred, engaged, and retained in community sport - increase the number of vulnerable/at risk young people meaningfully, and successfully, referred into sport through evidence-based, multi-agency referral pathways.**

£150,000 (£75,000 VRU + £75,000 Greater Sport) has been invested into community sport-based organisations and more than 1,110 young people have been engaged in the funded interventions.

Commissioned organisations are grassroots local community sports-based organisations working to provide quality provision to vulnerable young people in their community at both primary and secondary levels of intervention.

15 different organisations have been commissioned, delivering at 22 different locations.

Serious Violence Duty (SVD)

This year saw the roll-out of the new SVD, an important piece of legislation which places specified authorities under an obligation to come together and deliver a coordinated response to all forms of violence.

The Home Office reviewed the work being undertaken in Greater Manchester in a ‘joint readiness assessment’ and issued a rating of ‘Mature’ with reference to the capability and organisation of the partnership. Under the oversight of the Deputy Mayor, a SVD group was set up to provide direction around the use of the resources made available to assist with the duty’s delivery. This has included developing area profiles to understand the scale and nature of violence across GM, bringing a whole range of partnership data together.

Campaigns, communications and engagement

During 2022/23, over 100 pieces of content, including press releases and blog posts, have been shared, creating numerous pieces of news and media coverage.

Launched in May 2021, the ‘I am Greater’ campaign encourages young people to be greater than violence by thinking about their hopes and aspirations for the future. Young people shared their stories in a series of powerful videos, including individuals who have personally experienced the impact of serious violence. The campaign has achieved over 8 million impressions.

The #SpeakingOutCouldSaveALife campaign launched in February 2022 in response to three tragic fatal stabbings. The campaign brings together a diverse and varied group of people who share their own personal story of the impact of serious violence and appeal for others to speak out.

The campaign video has been viewed over 500,000 times.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

GBV is a global problem of significant proportions. Despite much good work that takes place to tackle it, GBV remains endemic. Through the implementation of our radical ten-year strategy, Greater Manchester can show the way globally, demonstrating how a city-region strongly coming together as one can deliver real social change. We do not accept gender-based violence simply as a fact of life that goes back generations; that is to accept needless loss of life and condemns literally thousands of people to misery and goes against Greater Manchester's ambition.

Partnership working

We have worked with partners across Greater Manchester including GMP, all ten local authorities, the Integrated Care Board, Health agencies across Greater Manchester, the Greater Manchester community and voluntary sector (particularly those specialist agencies dealing with GBV), schools and colleges, Probation, National Government and National Agencies. As a result of this Partnership working we have:

- **Increased investment to support additional independent domestic violence advisors (IDVAs).**
- **Attracted funding to support advice to those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).**
- **Supported innovative action to develop further refuge provision for men.**
- **Worked to improve the operation of multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs) to keep victims/survivors of domestic abuse safe.**
- **Worked with GMP to improve response and delivery of services around domestic abuse and GBV.**

Giving voice to those unheard

A central element of the Greater Manchester GBV Strategy is to ensure that those whose voices often go unheard are listened to in the design and delivery of new approaches and services. We are working with Black and minoritised communities, communities of people with disabilities and older people to understand and respond to their experiences and needs and developing bespoke responses to the challenges that GBV pose to these communities. These responses will be choreographed, directed, and delivered in partnership – demonstrating the power and efficacy of true collaboration.

Lived experience

We are committed to the continued engagement of people with lived experience and this approach will be the defining feature of how we implement our strategy going forward. We are clear that we will only be truly successful in our endeavours by having those with lived experience at the very heart of everything we do. This will require the commitment of us all and those responsible for providing services to a new level of openness, transparency and self-reflection. We are committed to ensuring that all aspects of service provision are responsive to the voices of victims and survivors and that their views are given due prominence. Our Lived Experience Reference Group will work hand in hand with the GBV Board to deliver meaningful change.

By and for services

We have worked closely with by and for services across Greater Manchester, recognising the critical role that they play in supporting those who are most marginalised in our communities. We have been successful in attracting significant Government investment to support those individual survivors with no recourse to public funds who were often unable to access refuge, meaning they were often forced to stay with an abuser or face homelessness and destitution.

We will ensure that perpetrators are no longer able to use victims' insecure immigration status as a tool of coercive control and that these survivors are offered life changing support.

We have initiated work with by and for services who support older people and disabled people to develop priority areas for future work and identify gaps in knowledge to ensure our future work is targeted effectively.

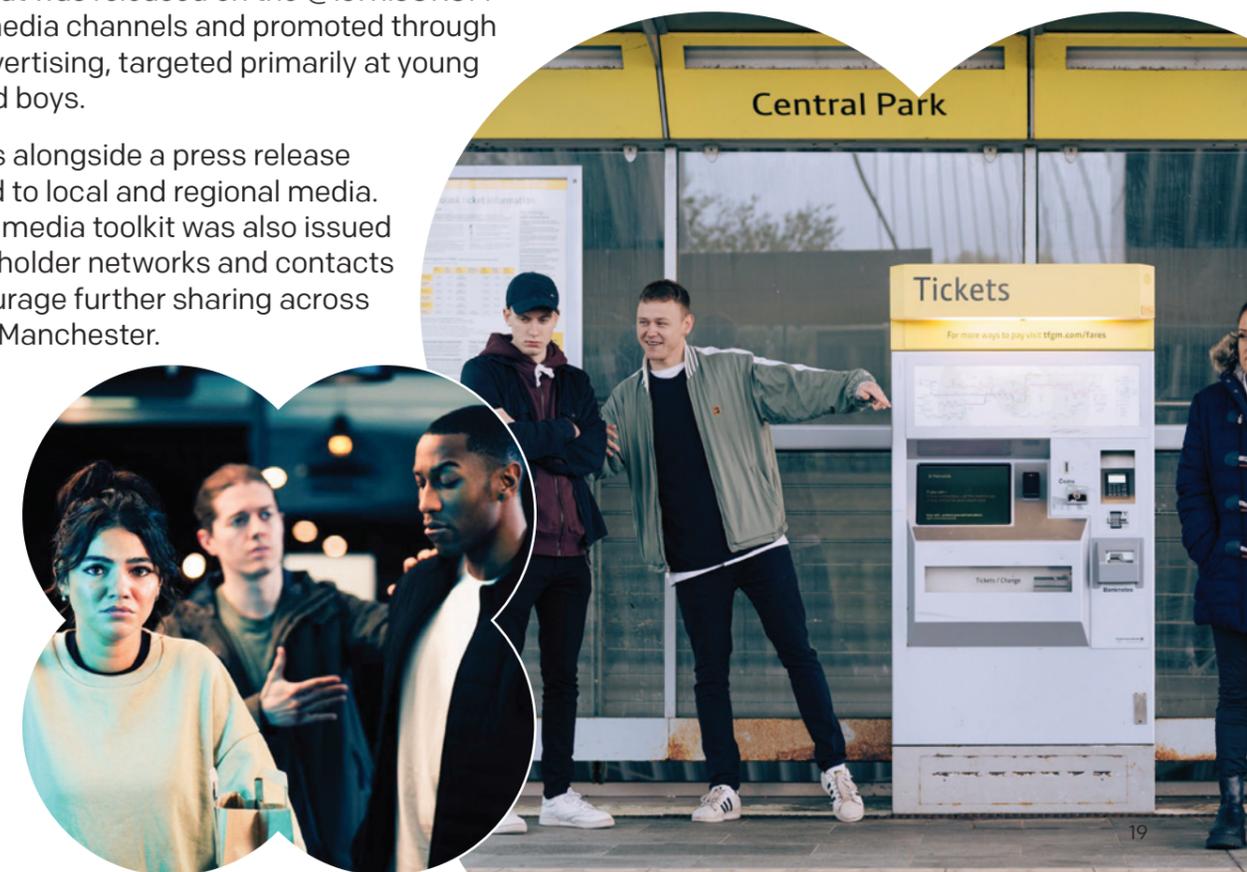
#IsThisOK?

In 2021, the Mayor launched a public engagement campaign called #IsThisOK?, as part of the ten-year GBV Strategy. #IsThisOK? calls on men, lads and boys to tackle and reduce gender-based violence in Greater Manchester – to understand what behaviours are not OK, to call it out when they see it happening, and to talk about why it shouldn't occur in the first place. The current phase of the campaign was launched in 2022 and focusses on challenging the early GBV behaviours that happen most commonly in public – such as unwanted comments and sexual harassment – and reaching the demographic that most commonly perpetrates these behaviours – men and boys aged 18-35.

The second phase of the #IsThisOK? campaign was initiated with the launch of a film that was released on the @IsThisOKGM social media channels and promoted through paid advertising, targeted primarily at young men and boys.

This was alongside a press release released to local and regional media. A social media toolkit was also issued to stakeholder networks and contacts to encourage further sharing across Greater Manchester.

The final release from this phase of the #IsThisOK? campaign will be a podcast series of three episodes of discussions between men about gender-based violence. The aim is to explore the role men and boys play in gender-based violence; the need to raise awareness of gender-based violence and how it affects women and girls; why it should matter to men and boys; and how men and boys should help stop behaviour that's not OK from occurring or call it out when it does occur.



Education and GBV

The GBV strategy within education, during this academic year, has had two main aims and one main pathway forward.

Our first goal reflects our commitment to making the school environment free from gender-based abuse, violence and harassment. We know some young people's experiences in schools have been demoralising and traumatic. We have talked with female pupils who have told us that some boys especially in school corridors can make brutal comments. Teachers have shared their concerns that some boys have imitated social media icons' misogynistic behaviours in their coursework portfolios. We have listened to some disturbing accounts, which have impacted negatively on well-being and morale.

The second goal reflects our firm understanding that we can deal with GBV best when we work together. As one junior school pupil commented, "we must all learn to be kind and not mean". We have set up an education strategy board with a headteacher or academy trust representative from each Greater Manchester local authority. This board is committed to supporting the work of schools to promote gender equality and respectful relationships, through a meaningful personal development curriculum.

Our chosen pathway, which we have consulted upon widely, looks to create two education projects focussed on tackling GBV, one for primary and one for secondary schools. Each project, facilitated by a voluntary organisation, with at least five similar schools participating, each from a different local authority, will design and deliver a programme to strengthen a school's personal development curriculum, and encourage young people to choose constructive relationships, having learned to spot and avoid harmful behaviours.

Housing and GBV

We have developed and agreed a housing reciprocal to support people who need rehousing because of GBV. Access to safe accommodation is accepted as being a core element of any risk management plan for a household experiencing domestic abuse and forms a central tenet of the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act ('The Act').

The Act strengthens the safety net provided by homelessness legislation by ensuring that anyone homeless due to domestic abuse is deemed to have a 'priority need' for accommodation and requires local authorities to ensure safe and suitable temporary options are available.

To build upon this enhanced provision, this reciprocal outlines how barriers to cross-borough moves can be removed where needed to ensure the safety of a household affected by domestic abuse.

The reciprocal arrangement covers two areas:

- **Waiving local connection/residency criteria for rehousing applications where an established need to move to a different borough exists; and**
- **Agreeing the acceptance of cross-boundary referrals between local authorities to ensure the safe discharge of a homelessness duty.**

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance accreditation (DAHA):

We are working with landlords across Greater Manchester to support them in attaining this accreditation.

DAHA accreditation provides a benchmark for the delivery of housing services that are sensitive to the needs of people experiencing domestic abuse.



Male Victims of GBV

Our GBV strategy is clear that the most pervasive forms of such violence is against women and girls and is predominantly perpetrated by men and boys. But our GBV strategy makes clear that men and boys can also be victims of gender-based violence. The strategy states that a bespoke plan will be drawn up to address how we effectively meet the needs of male victims and survivors. The men and boys strategy will focus on the following areas:

- **RASSO (rape and serious sexual offences – including child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation, both current and non-current/historic)**
- **Domestic abuse and violence (including familial abuse and in relationships)**
- **So-called 'honour based' killing**
- **Forced marriage**

Support for victims of sexual and domestic violence

The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) grant has provided support to the Sexual Violence Harm Reduction Group, to increase access to services and tailor services to meet diverse needs.

The MOJ grant also funds the restorative justice service, which facilitates communication between those harmed by crime and those responsible for the harm, with a focus on repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward.

The Deputy Mayor, with health partners, jointly commissions the Saint Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre. This service provides forensic and witness support for people who report rape and sexual offences.

Additional funding has been provided for a range of Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA's) and Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVA's), and for domestic abuse and sexual violence support services across Greater Manchester. This has enabled support to be provided to specialist by-and-for organisations and improved links between domestic abuse and sexual violence services.

We are also rolling out the creation of witness suites in a number of sexual violence support services so that victims and survivors will be able to give statements in a trusted environment.



Rape and serious sexual assault offences (RASSO)

The end-to-end RASSO review started in 2021 and was a multi-agency approach jointly led by GMP, the GMCA and Crown Prosecution Service.

The RASSO review merged into Operation Soteria, the national police programme, to improve the reporting and investigation of rape. A self-assessment was conducted in November 2022 with a report issued in March 2023, outlining the interim headlines from the national survey. This is being developed into a joint improvement plan based on the following Operation Soteria pillars:

- **Suspect-focused investigations**
- **Disrupting repeat suspects**
- **Victim engagement**
- **Officer learning, development, and wellbeing**
- **Data and performance**
- **Addressing digital forensics**

The Sexual Violence Harm Reduction Group is helping to co-design an integrated approach across the sector. To help support this, a communications and engagement post has been funded to support campaigns and coordination across support services.

Improving the victim journey

The Deputy Mayor funds a range of victim support services through an annual grant of £3 million provided by the Ministry of Justice. These services include a 'multi-crime' support service linked to people who report crimes to the police. This victims' multi-crime service is in the process of being re-commissioned and will be co-located with GMP with an estimated service start date of December 2023.

The Deputy Mayor has instigated a digital programme to develop an online 'portal' for victims so that they can be referred to the most appropriate service and also self-refer regardless of whether they report to the police.

The Deputy Mayor has also commissioned a Greater Manchester-wide victim survey which informs the design of commissioned services. Victims identified that they required more practical guidance, emotional support, and reassurance from GMP, as well as wishing to be kept better informed and understanding what to expect.

The victims code of practice

GMP compliance with the victims code of practice is a key metric against the HMICFRS Victim Services Assessment. GMP have implemented a rigorous audit process so that progress can be scrutinised to individual officer level.

All GMP officers and frontline staff are issued with cards that are used to provide contact details and outline the support available to victims. A text service is also available.

GMP provide a 'Help and Support to Victims' booklet, provided at the point of the crime being recorded, in different formats and languages. GMP are an early adopter Force for the Victims' Right to Review with an online form to simplify the process and reduce delay in responding to issues raised.

GMP have considered 71 requests in the period April 2022 to end of March 2023.

Mental health

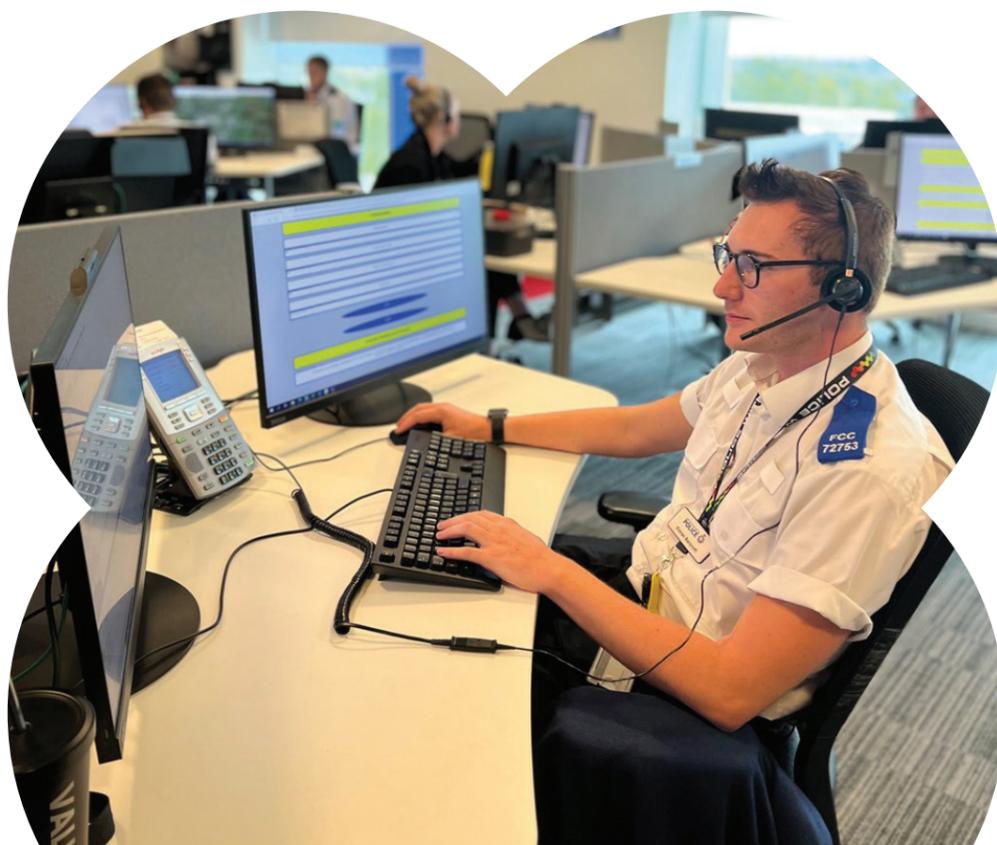
In 2022/23, GMP received a total of over 64,000 calls relating to mental health (before triage), representing over a quarter of all welfare calls that GMP received in that period. GMP have focussed on improving mental health pathways and this continues to remain a priority and challenge for 2023.

Mental health tactical advice service (MHTAS)

This team of mental health professionals continue to operate a 24/7 professionals' advice line for GMP officers attending incidents where there is mental health need. They are situated in GMP's force contact centre. They now also advise on Section 136 detentions* and consider alternative crisis provision. When a Section 136 detention is necessary, MHTAS assist the officer in finding a health based place of safety for the patient.

(* A Section 136 suite is a facility for people who are detained by the Police under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act. It provides a 'place of safety' whilst potential mental health needs are assessed under the Mental Health Act and any necessary arrangements made for ongoing care.)

GMP now have established mental health partnerships in every locality, supported by the mental health trusts. These work on joint protocols in respect of the use of Section 136 by GMP, accessibility of health based places of safety, cross border support between the two mental health trusts and the local authority Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) services, managing criminal behaviour of psychiatric in-patients and any other related issue impacting the effectiveness of the local mental health provision. GMP Prevention Hubs are now established in every district and the Prevention Hub inspectors attend these partnership meetings, sharing locality data to contribute to a collaborative discussion in order to continually improve the response for people in need.



Priority 2: Reducing harm and offending

Preventing anti-social and criminal behaviour including the most serious offending and terrorism by solving problems, intervening early and rehabilitating offenders to build confidence in criminal justice.

Youth justice transformation

The youth justice transformation programme is a partnership between GMCA, the ten Greater Manchester local authorities, GMP and the wider criminal justice system.

The vision for the programme is to improve the lives of young people, victims, and the community, through taking a 'child-first' and whole system approach to youth justice that reduces harm and reoffending through tackling offending behaviour at each point of the system.

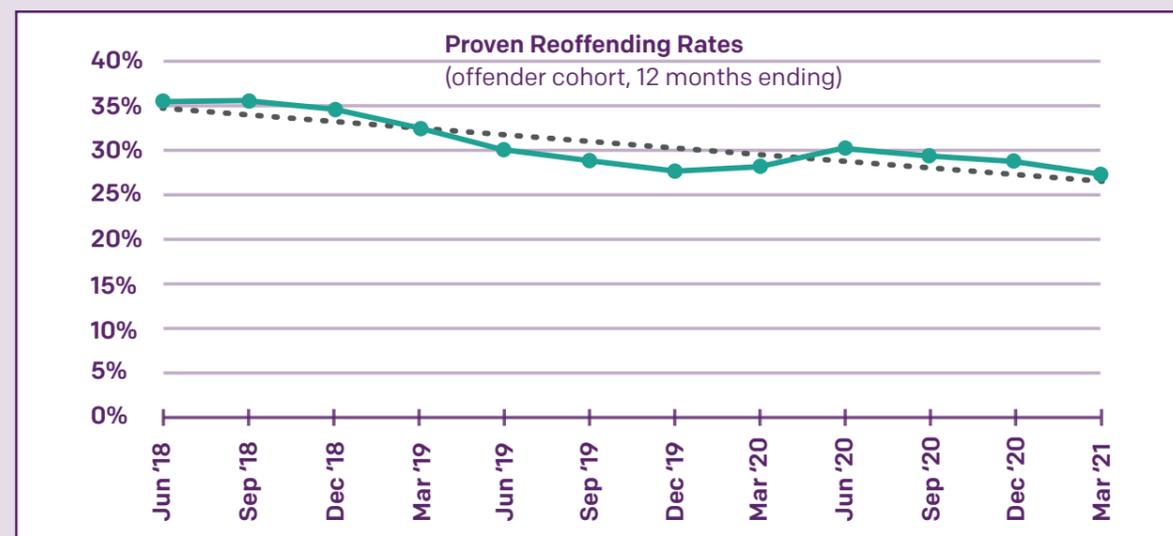
In support of the Programme the Deputy Mayor has funded:

- **£500,000 per year for early intervention across youth justice services**
- **£50,000 annually for the Resettlement Consortium**
- **Contribution to a social worker post at HMP Young Offenders Institute at Weatherby**
- **Resources to assist with development of action plans and to support the Greater Manchester lead youth justice director of children's services**
- **Creation of a new 2-year reducing reoffending resource to support the development and delivery of child-centered policing (CCP).**

GMP have supported a group of key Superintendents to drive and deliver the approach to CCP. GMP's draft priorities for CCP are:

- **Creating a trusted relationship with all children and young people**
- **Putting children and young people first in everything we do, listening to and learning from their experiences to inform our behaviours, policies and decision making**
- **Reducing reoffending and improving interventions for children and young people**
- **Better identifying, understanding, and responding to children and young people's vulnerabilities**
- **Creatively working with our communities and partners to problem-solve the issues affecting children and young people.**

The Greater Manchester proven reoffending rate for youth justice (Children under 18) at March 2021 was 27.3 % against England and Wales average of 31.2% and a reduction of approximately 1% year to year (March 2020 - March 2021).



Smarter Justice: The local criminal justice board

A Local Criminal Justice Board Chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable reports into the Justice and Rehabilitation Executive under the Smarter Justice workstream. The board is attended by key criminal justice agencies such as the Crown Prosecution Service, Courts and Police and is focussed on driving improvements in criminal justice outcomes and the quality of justice. Performance Indicators include:

October 2022- December 2022:

- **The average days taken for the police to charge an offender in victim-based cases was 25 days compared to a national average of 49 days**
- **Greater Manchester performs well in terms of timeliness, better than the national average and in the top 17 of Local Criminal Justice Boards for all the metrics when ranked nationally. GM has the second shortest time from police referral to CPS charge at 28 days. Only Norfolk and Suffolk perform better at 27 days.**
- **Percentage of trials which result in completed trial or guilty pleas: 88.7% compared to national average of 86.4%**
- **The percentage of investigations closed because the victim does not support police action was 33.3%. In terms of the quality of justice, the percentage of successful outcomes for victim-based crimes, although below the national average at 7.8%, is improving and GM performs better than West Midlands and Merseyside.**

There has been over a 40% increase in arrests by GMP in the last 12 months which has impacted on court demand – including remand courts and the wider Magistrates Courts, as more cases are being prosecuted through the courts. In response the Deputy Mayor has commissioned a ‘Criminal Justice Futures’ programme to evaluate demand across the system and assess capability and capacity requirements. The Local Criminal Justice Board has also established a ‘task and finish’ partnership approach to tackling the immediate demand management issues.

Reform of adult offender management

Greater Manchester Probation Service and GMCA have devolved co-commissioning arrangements that support the needs of local people on probation and in prison, with a primary aim to ensure they remain law abiding citizens following release. There are unique arrangements in Greater Manchester for the delivery of rehabilitative services. A Memorandum of Understanding between His Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service and GMCA was agreed in January 2023. This means that GMCA, through the Deputy Mayor, takes on a lead role for the commissioning of rehabilitative services.

Greater Manchester Integrated Rehabilitative Services is a unique devolved approach to the commissioning of rehabilitative services. This is a comprehensive multi-million-pound 5 year programme which focuses on:

- **Education training and employment**
- **Accommodation support**
- **Dependency and recovery**
- **Peer support**
- **Finance, benefits and debts**
- **A whole-system approach to women**
- **Welfare hubs in each local authority**

Greater Manchester has a track record of commissioning services that reduce harm and offending - for example the commissioning of the whole system approach to women. Re-offending rates remain low (accepting recent figures will still be affected by the pandemic) - at 15%, Greater Manchester has the lowest adult female re-offending rate of all large metropolitan areas.

Stable accommodation is an important aspect of all rehabilitation programmes. The Greater Manchester Community Accommodation Service 3 (CAS-3) is for people leaving custody who are ‘actually homeless’ but not under an interim duty of accommodation with their local authority (‘priority need’). Greater Manchester CAS-3 offers temporary accommodation for up to 12 weeks, and support to maintain the accommodation and seek a longer-term housing solution. This accommodation and support is commissioned by local authorities, with regional service co-ordination managed by the Greater Manchester Homelessness Prevention Team.

The effectiveness of rehabilitation services is a key area of focus for the Deputy Mayor, who has commissioned ‘Revolving Doors’ to provide lived experience insight across all commissioned services.

This service undertakes a quality assurance approach to make sure service delivery meets the needs of people on probation. This ensures that areas for service improvement are identified at an early stage.

GMP has invested in a new programme of Out Of Court Disposals with 16 dedicated officers allocated across all divisions. The aim is to develop rehabilitative, reparative, or punitive conditions for Community Resolutions and Conditional Cautions. GMP will work with partners to develop pathways for offenders, addressing the reasons why they offend, and build a toolkit, training package and simplify processes for frontline officers who will set individual conditions.



A new **Integrated Offender Management Strategy** and operational guidance is being implemented to review offender management in its entirety. This allows probation, police and other partners to understand the offender management offer and need, including serious acquisitive crime, high demand crime, domestic abuse, sexual harm, and serious violence.

Greater Manchester Probation Service launched the short sentence function for people on probation who are serving short sentences. This includes up to three appointments per week, and dedicated resource targeting these individuals from the earliest point while in custody to give the best possible opportunity of successful resettlement.

GM partners are preparing for the implementation of new electronic monitoring approaches through integrated offender management.

Alcohol abstinence monitoring went live in 2021 on community orders and became a licence condition from 15 June 2022. This can be complete abstinence or monitoring alcohol use.

Development of a Greater Manchester Perpetrator Framework is underway and will focus on the priority areas of sex offending, domestic abuse, and stalking, shaped around the overarching aims of 'protect, enforce and change'.

In 2020 Greater Manchester was successful in securing over £1 million of funding to develop, pilot and evaluate a number of programmes for domestic abuse perpetrators. These programmes began interventions with perpetrators in Spring 2021 and are delivered by a local organisation 'Talk, Listen, Change' a Respect accredited organisation that has extensive knowledge and expertise of working with domestic abuse perpetrators, victims, and their families.

The current Home Office funded perpetrator delivery on **domestic abuse** will run until approximately December 2023 and includes a range of programmes and tailored support for different types of perpetrators with specialist programmes designed for the following: male perpetrators; male LGBTQ+ perpetrators; perpetrators with English as an additional language; people who identify as female and are in same sex relationships; young people; and high-harm, high-risk perpetrators.

Stalking - a multi-agency stalking intervention partnership (MASIP) has been established with GMCA, GMP, probation, health, Manchester University and the Pankhurst Centre (who have funding to develop a specialist stalking service for victims).

Sex Offending - we are in the process of reinvigorating the former Greater Manchester ACCORD sex offender management programme with police, probation, and the voluntary sector. This will include joint commissioning with probation and community of practice training and development on understanding typology and offending behaviour.

Tackling serious and organised crime – Programme Challenger

Programme Challenger is Greater Manchester's partnership response to serious and organised crime (SOC), delivered through the SOC strategy for 2022-25.

2022/23 saw a refreshed Challenger strategy launched, to tackle serious and organised crime in all its forms. An internal governance review has supported GMP and partners to adapt to the strategy and delivery requirements, strengthening the partnership representation on the Executive Board, the flow of delivery and performance data to districts and the focus on key priority themes areas for all partners.

These theme areas are:

- **County lines**
- **Drugs**
- **Organised immigration crime**
- **Western Balkan criminality**
- **Homicide prevention**
- **Modern slavery and human trafficking**
- **Firearms**

In 2022/23 there were over 1,500 disruptions to tackle SOC threats in Greater Manchester, including 192 convictions resulting in over 1,000 years in prison for offenders.

Almost £3.3 million has been recovered from SOC work in 2022/23.

In April 2022, GMP was recognised by the Home Office as the fourth County Lines priority force area nationally, joining West Midlands, Merseyside and Metropolitan Police Forces in forming dedicated teams to tackle the issue of organised drug trafficking and exploitation. The team successfully dismantled 85 county lines operating in Greater Manchester in 2022/23.

As part of the coordinated effort to reduce county lines, Challenger also commissioned 'Crossing the Line' to deliver a school based educational monologue in over 50 primary schools. The schools were self-selected, volunteering to engage in the sessions because they recognised the potential risk of exploitation of their children. Over 1,500 year 5 and 6 children engaged and schools reported a positive reception and understanding of the issues highlighted.



Where offending is linked to drug, alcohol, or mental health issues we encourage the use of **Community Sentence Treatment Requirements**. These orders require attendance at treatment and probation services as an alternative to prison. The relationship between the Greater Manchester Probation Service and our treatment services is further strengthened through our justice devolution arrangements which have enabled probation to invest in these locally commissioned services. We also work closely with our local prison, Forest Bank, to maximise the number of people receiving treatment in prison who continue to do so once released.

Our success rate in ensuring this continuity of care is the best in the country, shown by the rate of successful pick-ups from Forest Bank prison, which increased from 52% in 2021/22 to 69% in 2022/23. Our overall success rate across the prison estate of 64% for 2022/23 is well above the national average of 41%.

Reducing drug and alcohol related harm

The Greater Manchester Drug and Alcohol Transformation Board is co-chaired by the Deputy Mayor and has strategic responsibility for implementing the National Drugs Strategy.

The board includes partners from health, police, probation, local authorities, and the voluntary sector. It aims to maximise the number of people that get help and support particularly where the use of drugs and alcohol may have contributed to them becoming homeless, impacted on their ability to work, or resulted in them coming into contact with the criminal justice system.

To support the work of our partners, the Deputy Mayor commissions drugs intelligence functions that are recognised nationally as best practice. Our drug early warning system works to national guidelines that were developed and piloted in Greater Manchester.

It consists of a multidisciplinary drug alert panel which investigates drug related incidents and an online Local Drug Information System bringing together over 850 professionals to share national and local drugs knowledge and intelligence. Alongside this, Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) conduct testing and research on emergent and new drugs (GM-TRENDS). MANDRAKE, an MMU partnership with GMP, enables drugs to be routinely tested for purity and adulterants.

This year we have seen increases in the purity of heroin tested alongside declining reports of ‘spice’ use. The use of illicit prescription medications remains prevalent amongst heroin users with tests confirming variability in pill strengths which impacts on overdose risk. The powdered cocaine market remains one of generally high purity, with increased use, across a wider demographic, and often in conjunction with other substances such as alcohol and ketamine. Amongst young people, both locally and nationally, we have reported an increase in the use of nitrous oxide (laughing gas) such that it is now considered second to cannabis as the most used substance amongst young adults (aged 16-25).

With the aim of reducing drug related deaths, Liverpool John Moores University’s Public Health Institute are commissioned to provide panels across our ten boroughs which consider treatment records and coroners’ reports on drug and ‘alcohol toxicity’ related deaths. The panels enable the confidential sharing across public services of the circumstances behind such deaths with an emphasis on organisations jointly working on preventative measures. This model is now operating across Merseyside and Greater Manchester, and we anticipate it being recommended nationally as part of forthcoming public health guidance.

Substance misuse - Trends, demands and the early warning system

Responsibility for commissioning local treatment and recovery services rests with our local authority partners. The Deputy Mayor and her team work to coordinate activity with those organisations that operate across Greater Manchester such as GMP, Probation, Courts and Greater Manchester health organisations.



Priority 3: Strengthening communities and places

Helping to build resilient and resourceful communities including online communities and protecting the places where people live, work, socialise or travel. Supporting the delivery of the IT systems, buildings, roads, street lighting and other public assets needed to solve problems in a 21st century society.

Safer Travel – Roads and public transport

Greater Manchester continues to average between 60 and 70 road related fatalities each year. Tackling road dangers and increasing safety on transport has therefore remained one of the Deputy Mayor’s key priorities.

As part of the precept for 2022/23, an uplift of 60 officers was agreed for the Transport Unit. Recruitment for these posts is now complete and we are starting to see the real benefits of this increased resource to support engagement and enforcement activity.

Our commitment to reduce road danger will remain as we work towards the ‘Vision Zero’ goal of reducing deaths and serious injuries on our streets to as close as possible to zero by 2040.

In support of this, a number of key operations and initiatives are in place:

Operation Avro – a force-wide week of action which moves around districts each month and includes a day of action on the transport network (the ‘11th district’). In just 2 days of September this operation resulted in 1,189 Metrolink fines, 41 arrests, 70 seized vehicles, 3 court summons, 405 traffic offences and 530 speed offences.

Operation Considerate – an ongoing traffic operation that has been developed to educate and engage all road users to enhance road safety (with a focus on cyclists). The operation identifies road users who put themselves and others at risk by contravening traffic laws and aims to stop those found committing offences and deal with them by means of advice, a traffic offence report or court summons.

A new community speed-watch scheme - coordinated centrally by GMP, community volunteers are trained and provided with handheld speed recording devices in known hotspot areas. Five district schemes are due to launch soon.

Continuation of the **Safe Drive Stay Alive programme** - funded by the Safer Roads Greater Manchester partnership with additional funding from the Deputy Mayor, the programme consists of an emotionally engaging performance told by Greater Manchester’s first responders to live audiences of college students.

Tackling hate crime

We want everyone to feel safe in Greater Manchester, to be free from targeted abuse and to feel confident that front line services can and will support them. To this end, progress has been made to achieve the aims of the Greater Manchester Partnership Plan to tackle hate crime, which raises awareness, improves support for victims, improves reporting and supports initiatives to prevent hate crime.

Led by the Deputy Mayor, the Police, Fire and Crime Team have continued to work with the Greater Manchester equality panels over the past year to improve strategies and plans to tackle hate, inequality, and injustice. Work has commenced to review how people can report hate crime and access the police.

In support of new initiatives to promote diversity and unity, the Deputy Mayor has provided £50,000 to support local activities to tackle hate crime throughout the year contributing to hundreds of local community events, reaching tens of thousands of people.

Examples of these events include:

- **Chabad Community Care (Salford) ran face to face as well as Zoom sessions on having the confidence to come forward and report hate crime.**
- **Petrus Community (Oldham) hosted listening campaigns in the community to raise awareness of local challenges and fear of hate crime, and to promote agencies who can provide support and engage in therapeutic creative workshops.**
- **A Peace Mala at Gorton Monastery (Manchester), bringing together local schools to celebrate the Peace Mala and Rights Respecting work.**

Participant feedback

“I just wanted to call in and say how much I appreciate this program. I learned so much today about the different types of hate crimes and how to report them. It’s so important that we all work together to make our community safe for everyone, and this program is really helping to make that happen. Keep up the great work!”

“I now know who to turn to and where to get help from if it happens again, when I had hateful names shouted at me a couple of years ago, I didn’t know what to do and never reported it.”



To support the hundreds of local events taking place, the Deputy Mayor also provided funding to run a central awareness raising campaign across Greater Manchester, on public transport and radio and social media – using partnership branding to highlight the impact that hate can have and to highlight the reporting and support channels available – letsendhatecrime.com

Looking to the future, we want to ensure the victim experience is as good as it can be, through better training and access to support services. We will also be looking further at the use of restorative justice and at education programmes to prevent hate crime from occurring and alter the behaviours of those who have perpetrated it.

The Good Night Out Guide

Student focus groups and research told us that young people (particularly though not exclusively women and girls) wanted to know what to do and where to go if they got into trouble on a night out.

The Good Night Out Guide and campaign launched in Student Welcome Week in September 2022, brought partner resources and guidance into one place to promote what is available (such as safe places, people who can offer assistance, help points and reporting).

The audience was primarily 16–24-year-olds who are out enjoying Greater Manchester’s night-time offer.

The Guide element has focussed on Manchester city centre but provides a template to be adapted for other localities. The Guide was distributed in 5,000 student welcome packs and a further 3,000 were distributed through the Halloween period. 11,454 users were reached on social media and the Good Night Out Guide has received over 1,000 hits.

The campaign ran for seven weeks. Posters to promote the Guide featured at key transport stops across Manchester, including Deansgate/Castlefield, St. Peter’s Square, and Exchange Square. There were approximately 9.4 million opportunities to see the posters during this period.

Students and young people praised the ‘look and feel’ of the Guide and the resource has gone down well in hotels, student accommodation and welcome fairs.

The work complements other safety schemes such as the Manchester Night-Time Charter and the Manchester Standard.

Safer Streets Fund

Round 4 of the Home Office Safer Streets Fund was launched in May 2022 and Greater Manchester was successful with all three submitted bids, bringing in over £1.6m of funding for this financial year and taking the total Greater Manchester has received since 2020 to over £4.2million.

Manchester - Fallowfield Loop and Yellow Brick Road

This programme provides interventions to reduce acquisitive crime, anti-social behaviour, violence against women and girls to improve feelings of safety along the Fallowfield Loop and Yellow Brick Road. It supports the Greater Manchester Active Travel mission to build a world-class walking, wheeling, and cycling network.

This programme will:

- **Improve access along the Fallowfield Loop and an improved physical and natural environment**
- **Provide support to local businesses and schools to encourage increased use of the Fallowfield Loop and Yellow Brick Road.**

Stockport – Town Centre and Brinnington

Building on the established multi-agency and community problem-solving ‘Ladder of Intervention’ approach to anti-social behaviour in Stockport, this programme looks to address the root cause of youth ASB and associated crimes and aims to improve the perception and safety of residents and the business community who see the impact of youth ASB on cohesion and community/business confidence.

This will be achieved through the provision of:

- **Increased CCTV provision and out of hours security**
- **Increased detached youth work provision**
- **Mentoring and career pathways for young people**
- **Community speed-watch scheme**
- **ASB and retail crime reporting pilot scheme.**

Wigan

Delivering in Platt Bridge and Scholes, the Safer Streets fund supports the delivery of Wigan’s ambition to create safe communities that care for each other. This has seen communities come together and engage with public services to identify the challenges their local areas face and co-develop effective and sustainable solutions to:

- **Fly-tipping**
- **Acquisitive crime**
- **Increasing perceptions of safety through CCTV**
- **Road safety improvements measures.**



Section 3

Investing in communities

The refreshed Police and Crime Plan recognises that working together with victims, communities and partnerships is a crucial priority.

In 2022/23, the Deputy Mayor devolved over £9 million to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), to provide and enhance services and develop programmes and initiatives to tackle crime and disorder.

The Deputy Mayor continues to ring-fence over £1.1 million of funding for communities and voluntary sector organisations to enable them to stand together in tackling the crimes and incidents that affect them.

The following sections provide an outline of how, in each local authority area, the CSPs are working together, using the funding that is provided by the Deputy Mayor, to

invest in their communities, shaping and delivering initiatives and projects to improve community safety.

CSP's sees a variety of teams in an area work together to reduce crime, tackle antisocial behaviour, and make the borough a safer place to live, study, work, and visit. It is a statutory partnership made up of representatives from the local authority, GMP, GMFRS, Probation, health, youth justice, housing providers, and representatives from the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.

They undertake an assessment of crime and antisocial behaviour across the borough which helps to inform the priorities. Each CSP's overarching priorities are aligned with those of the Greater Manchester Police and Crime Plan.



Bolton

Partnership Prevention Hub

We have supported the introduction of the Prevention Hub which is a multi-agency arrangement led by GMP to address repeating issues around crime, anti-social behaviour and disorder through a problem-solving model.

Serious violence

Bolton received £150,000 investment from the Greater Manchester VRU to tackle key priorities. This allowed the piloting of the Prevention, Intervention, Education and Diversion (PIED) Project which has supported schools with safeguarding concerns regarding serious violence and knife crime and offered a wider prevention-based approach within the youth justice service by adopting an advocacy approach focused on the child with wraparound family support. 242 young people were supported through this project.

The partnership supported targeted summer prevention plans in areas where young people of highest need were at risk of being involved in violence related incidents. StreetGames were commissioned to coordinate and manage local organisations to deliver appropriate youth diversion intervention activities. 300 young people were engaged in activities over 174 hours at 8 locations. Activity included football, boxing, dance, multisport, fitness and sessional activities such as outdoor adventure away from the locality.

Case Study 1

Steer – Assertive Youth Mentoring Project, to increase inclusion by impacting early on youths at risk of antisocial behaviour and crime and preventing escalation of young people into serious crime. 'H' was referred to the project as a non-engager and at risk of permanent exclusion. Outside school, he was making poor choices which led him to get into trouble with the police for antisocial behaviour. He had a history of violence and aggressive behaviour. 'H' engaged with the programme for 9 months in which time he re-engaged with education

and maintained a focus on playing football. He is now coaching primary school children to obtain his BTEC Physical Education qualification.

Hate crime

Bolton actively participated in Hate Crime Week of Action. Grants worth £10,000 were provided to local community groups to raise awareness about hate crime. Furthermore, a social media campaign included press releases and awareness raising through the local radio station. We are also involved with supporting Bolton Pride. Additionally, neighbourhood policing teams visited several community groups and schools to raise awareness of hate crime where they distributed hate crime promotional materials.

Town centre

Key objectives are to ensure visitors, employees and residents feel safe when in the Town Centre. The Central Bolton Partnership is a membership scheme between business, Greater Manchester Police, NCP management of CCTV monitoring and the council with the aim of improving town centre safety. The scheme's key benefits include a dedicated team to support with day-to-day issues, regular business meetings, and radio links which give a direct link to all other licensed premises and CCTV. Bolton Town Centre has also benefited from a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO), which was extended for a further three years. To support the night-time economy a variety of schemes, including 'Best Bar None', 'Ask for Angela', 'Get Home Safe #GHS' and an anti-spiking campaign, were run, hand held metal detectors were introduced, a review of street lighting in key locations was conducted, and special training for licensed premises and door staff was delivered. This training is now being rolled out across the whole borough. A multi-agency response has been successful in reducing the impact of begging. It provided a highly visible presence and engaged and advised 42 vulnerable individuals.

Domestic abuse - in accordance with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Bolton CSP has produced a Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy. They also undertook a whole system review conducted by SafeLives that highlighted the need for a holistic, whole family, whole housing approach that is inclusive of minoritised groups and has the authentic voice of victims at its heart. To implement the recommendation of the review multiagency workshops were conducted. In an effort to address the needs of male victims Bolton has partnered with other local authorities to provide a Greater Manchester male refuge.

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) – Bolton CSP continues to commission and coordinate DHRs working to share learning across the workforce.

Case Study 2:

Identification and response to improve safety (IRIS) is a specialist domestic violence and abuse (DVA) training, support and referral programme for general practice. It is a collaboration between primary care and third sector organisations specialising in support service for victims of DVA. Core areas of the programme include ongoing training, education and consultancy for the clinical team and administrative staff, care pathways for primary health care practitioners and an enhanced referral pathway to specialist domestic violence services for patients with

experience of DVA. The project supported a total of 283 victims of whom 32 were referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

Prevent – Prevent is part of the Government’s Counter Terrorism Strategy known as CONTEST. It is aimed at safeguarding people and communities from the threat of terrorism. Bolton benefited from a cluster arrangement among Bolton, Bury and Salford councils which has provided additional resources to train professionals to identify individuals vulnerable to radicalisation and to ensure appropriate referrals to the Channel Panel (a multi-agency safeguarding arrangement) are made through which holistic support is offered. In total 1,348 individuals across the cluster were trained. Additionally, 42 voluntary sector safeguarding leads were trained. The cluster arrangement helped to produce resources to engage the wider community.

The Deputy Mayor’s investment into the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector has been channelled via Bolton Fund. It brings together funding from Bolton Council, NHS Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group, Bolton at Home and Bolton CVS to fund the priorities of Bolton’s Vision 2030. The priority areas are informed through Bolton’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), co-designed with communities and community intelligence.



A summary of the projects are set out below:

Group	Project summary
Fort Alice Ltd	Holistic assessment pathways and therapeutic interventions for victims of sexual and domestic violence
Bolton Lads & Girls Club	Supporting vulnerable girls aged 13 to 16 at risk of exploitation and providing positive activities
Backup North West	Advice/ support/mentoring to 16 to 25 year olds who are homeless to reduce/prevent/ cease offending
Be The Change CIC	Activities to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and prevent young people becoming involved in crime
Harmony Youth Service	Workshops to raise awareness with young people, support victims and make Bolton a better place
Endeavour Project	Training volunteer domestic abuse community champions to support people to access services
Kaalmo Welfare Trust	Delivery of street safety sessions for parents, and reassurance patrols during peak times of disorder
Stand Up Sisters CIC	Running a series of creative workshops for victims of crime
Bolton Solidarity Community Association	Mentoring project with young people aged 13 to 19 from ethnic minority backgrounds at risk of involvement in crime
Live from Worktown	Multimedia project including positive imaging around standing together based on public contributions
Flowhesion Foundation	Delivery of drugs awareness to Black, minority ethnic and refugee young people, two parents’ conferences and the support line

Case Study 3: Be the Change Project CIC, Great Lever:

The funding has supported the running of youth club nights three times a week. Over 30 young people regularly attend. The youth club is a safe environment where young people can join after school and get involved in various activities.

Case Study 4: Paws for Kids (Endeavour)

The funding has been used to train local volunteers as Domestic Abuse Community Champions who know how to raise awareness about abuse and to help survivors in their area. Volunteers were recruited from ex-service users and local residents. All recruits were women during the initial intake but we will be recruiting men in the second wave.

By having trained volunteers, we are seeing people being introduced into our services at a much earlier stage than if the pathway had not been there. We learned there is a great need for early intervention services in all the many diverse communities within Bolton.

Priorities for 2023/24:

In addition to the above priorities, there will be a significant focus on

- Preparing for the introduction of the Serious Violence duty
- Commissioning new service provision for Domestic Abuse Safe accommodation
- Revising the local Prevent Strategy as a result of the National Review of Prevent
- Violence Against Women and Girls / Gender Based Violence.

Bury

Following consultation with neighbourhoods, the CSP has refreshed the Community Safety Plan with six key priorities aligned with the council's Let's Do It! strategy. "Let's Do It" focuses on neighbourhoods, working together (to work 'with', not 'to'), and building on local strengths. Listening events gathered insights on local priorities, including feedback on what made people feel unsafe and what could be done to address this. To ensure inclusivity, specific sessions with communities representing a range of protected characteristics were organised. These efforts were supplemented by local data and information from the Deputy Mayor's Police and Crime Survey.

To deliver on the six key priorities, the CSP has worked with local communities to maximise the Deputy Mayor's funding which includes Hate Crime Awareness funding – investing over £110,000 to 19 voluntary and community groups across Bury – alongside wider community investment through the VRU community-led pilot, local health improvement funding and pitch neighbourhood funding.

Priority 1: reducing drug and alcohol-related harm:

The Achieve Bury Recovery Fund has awarded grants to various community groups to support addiction recovery. "Rammy Men CIC", for instance, has been able to offer increased peer support, providing attendees with an alternative path to escape the destructive cycles they find themselves in. Surrounded by inspiring role models and mentors, and engaged in productive and hope-inspiring activities, many attendees consider this service to be truly pivotal in transforming their lives.

Bury CSP has also funded groups that offer positive distractions and foster a sense of community, preventing individuals from relapsing into drug and alcohol misuse.

For example:

The MaD Theatre Company organises weekly creative arts workshops for women in recovery, creating support networks with other women who are either in recovery or have been in similar positions. Through writing, devising, dancing, and games focused on wellbeing, they nurture friendships and unlock creativity.

The "Recovery Rocks" music group provides a safe and enjoyable space for individuals in recovery or trying to recover. Attendees can play or listen to music and receive lessons from fellow members of the recovery community who play musical instruments.

Priority 2: supporting victims and tackling the causes of domestic abuse (DA):

As part of the commitment to preventing domestic abuse and supporting victims, funding was granted to the Asian Development Association of Bury (ADAB) – a charity with a mission to improve the wellbeing of ethnic minority communities. This funding enabled the organisation to deliver culturally sensitive sessions in Urdu, Punjabi and Pushto to assist women who have experienced or have concerns about domestic abuse. This has established a safe and inclusive space where women can socialise, access relevant services, and receive peer support.

The Deputy Mayor's funding has also supported Enterprising Youth to reach 670 Bury residents and professionals with adverse childhood experiences. As part of their work, they hold One Step groups, which provide visual arts, confidence-raising, and self-defence workshops for those who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing domestic abuse, providing them with valuable skills, support, and a sense of empowerment.

Priority 3: strengthening community cohesion:

Recognising communities are of interest as much as place, Bury has developed an inclusion calendar to build a sense of belonging, awareness, and understanding to celebrate the borough's diverse communities. This has included a focus on International Women's Day, including White Ribbon promotion; integration activity with arrivals through the Homes for Ukraine scheme; support to the Bury African Caribbean Women's Network in race conversations including Black History month; work with Shomrim to ensure cohesion associated with Parklife; engagement of young people in Bury's Holocaust Memorial commemoration, and a funded Hate Crime session with Bury and Rochdale African Community Network as part of Operation Avro.

Hate Crime awareness activity as part of the Greater Manchester week of action included a session run by Supporting Sisters, with input from GMP. This involved learning to identify different types of hate, a guest speaker sharing their lived experience, roundtable discussions, hate-crime specific poetry, and a shared meal to celebrate cohesion over hate. Other awareness-raising has been more targeted. For instance, Bury People First has held five Hate/Mate crime workshops for people with learning disabilities delivered by people with lived experience.

The local Eagle's Wing group has worked to support 30 asylum seekers and refugees to come together twice a week for the purpose of community cohesion and integration. This allows participants to connect, share experiences, and foster a sense of belonging in the community.

Priority 4: creating and maintaining safe spaces:

The Caritas Red Door project, funded by the voluntary and community sector grant, has recently expanded its services to provide a dedicated community living room for Bury's homeless population.

This initiative serves as a vital hub, offering not only a safe space for individuals experiencing homelessness, but also as a gateway to access community safety-related services and employment, training, and education services.

Bury CSP has also funded the Samaritans to input into 'BSAFE' – a targeted activity reaching a total of 2,700 year 8 students across 13 secondary schools over a three-week period. These sessions focused on reducing re-offending locally through interactive activities focusing on themes such as water safety, violence against women and girls, and healthy behaviours. By fostering a deeper understanding of these topics, the project aims to empower students with the knowledge to make positive choices and contribute to a safer community for everyone, building on learning from young people's voices through our annual Circles of Influence sessions.



Priority 5: tackling crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Targeted interventions to prevent local acquisitive crime in hotspot locations takes place regularly. Joint patrols between GMP, Bury Council ASB colleagues, Bury College, Travelsafe (TfGM), Six Town Housing and Street Pastors support a partnership approach to this activity.

A 6-week peer support programme has provided early intervention and support for crime victims through the local youth violence partnership. The sessions are designed as listening circles, creating a safe space for participants to share their experiences while empowering them to rebuild their confidence and reintegrate into the community with an improved quality of life.

Children referred by the police or youth offending services, have been given the opportunity to participate in Spruce Explorers sessions. These aim to mitigate the impact of school exclusions which can contribute to increases in criminality. By promoting a sense of place stewardship and encouraging healthy behaviours in respect of tolerance, Spruce Explorers helps young individuals to develop positive attitudes and behaviours, reducing their involvement in criminal activities.



Priority 6: reducing re-offending:

Bury's reducing re-offending partnership works together to deliver rehabilitative interventions through a focus on supporting individuals to re-integrate into the community by addressing a range of needs. Integrated Offender Management activity is improving the quality of life in communities by reducing the negative impact of crime and re-offending, reducing the number of people who become victims of crime, and improving the public's confidence in the criminal justice system.

Priorities towards reducing youth re-offending are addressed through targeted youth outreach in known ASB hotspots, such as Whitefield-based Metrolink stations. Young people are offered a mix of diversionary activity and education through the Victoria Community Centre, with emphasis on sexual health, volunteer trainee youth workers, and cyber-crime prevention. The project has also been able to deliver 180 art therapy sessions to young people from the Pupil Referral Unit and their parents/guardians. The outcomes have been extremely positive, with successful transitioning back into mainstream education as well as significant improvements in concentration, attendance, and behaviour, resulting in the reduction of ASB and prevention of further criminality.

Summary:

Partnership working and the Deputy Mayor's funding have allowed Bury to advance its progress towards improving community safety across the six priorities in the borough. In line with "Let's Do It!", the Bury CSP has worked alongside communities to make sure that the joint work builds from a strengths-based approach, complementing rather than replacing the excellent activity that is already taking place in our borough. Going forward, the CSP will continue the strong partnership approach to deliver a safe, inclusive borough for all, including embedding delivery against the Serious Violence Duty.

Manchester

Following extensive consultation, the current Community Safety Strategy 2022-25 identified five priorities:

- Tackling neighbourhood crime and antisocial behaviour
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Tackling serious harm and violence
- Tackling drug and alcohol driven crime
- Protecting communities through changing offender behaviour

Underpinning these five priorities are common themes that are applicable to any or all of the priorities to a greater or lesser degree, including mental health, disproportionality in the criminal justice system, achieving race equality, and improving data and communication.

Each of the five priorities is overseen by two priority leads, who are responsible for advancing, delivery, and reporting of their priority area. This includes developing plans, commissioning analysis and activity, allocating funding, monitoring activity and performance, and working with other priority leads on cross-cutting areas of work.

How the funding has been used in 2022/23

Priority leads submitted proposals for the Community Safety Grant to the CSP for funding for initiatives that progressed our five strategic priorities. Initiatives funded during 2022/23 include:

- Raising awareness of hate crime, how to report it, and where to get support.
- Supporting people who are vulnerable in the night-time economy.
- Early intervention and prevention work for young people at risk of violence.
- Interventions to tackle domestic violence and abuse, forced marriages, female genital mutilation, and so-called 'honour-based' violence and abuse.

- Building community resilience to hateful extremism through the RADEQUAL community programme.
- Parenting service linked to those missing from home to reduce further episodes and safeguard children and young people.
- Supporting access to drug and alcohol treatment services.
- Undertaking drug testing of samples seized by GMP to ascertain content and purity levels.
- Supporting people on probation to maintain tenancies and engage with other services for issues such as health, substance use, money management, housing, and employability.



The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Grant was used to further support VCS contribution towards the delivery of the Community Safety Strategy. This included work to keep children and young people safe. Commissioned services focused on targeted work for children and young people in areas with persistent high levels of youth related antisocial behaviour and young people at risk of serious violence. Provision included detached youth work and outreach, 1-1 support, conflict resolution initiatives, support for families, and mentoring.

The funding also supported the delivery of the Street Engagement Hub which provides a partnership of practical support and advice to complex individuals who are often homeless/rough sleeping, around a range of issues including accommodation, substance use, health and money. Further grant funding was also used to contribute towards a Homeless Outreach Worker based within Manchester Action on Street Health (MASH). This specialist post supports the CSP and wider Council's objectives around community safety, domestic violence and abuse, health, and reducing rough sleeping.

The Serious Violence Board allocated the Serious Violent Crime Grant, funding work areas that included youth provision for young people at risk of violence, trauma informed interventions for Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic young people at risk of being drawn into serious violence, targeted work in education settings around knife crime, exploitation, and inclusion, and early intervention and preventative initiatives for young people.

Case Study

Justlife provide support to people on probation at risk of or experiencing homelessness. This support includes finding and maintaining safe and suitable accommodation, facilitating change, and help around desisting from offending.

Justlife received a referral from the Prison Discharge Team at Manchester City Council concerning a male service user with multiple concerns around housing and health. He wasn't registered with a local GP, so Justlife contacted his current GP who prescribed the medication he needed and then supported him to register with a local GP. After being hesitant to take any medication, he began taking the prescribed medication which had a positive impact on his health. He was also referred to Age UK for counselling.

Justlife started bidding for accommodation on his behalf in September 2022 and he said, "this is the first time in a long time that I've felt positive". He would have struggled to do this by himself as he cannot access the internet. Four months after bidding on properties, he was offered a flat in sheltered accommodation and Justlife supported him with the move, attending the tenancy sign up and meeting with the compliance team. The Compliance Officer addressed his offences sensitively and reassured him that staff at the accommodation wouldn't be informed of his offences, which also reduced his anxiety.

Justlife supported him applying for PIP and paid for a birth certificate for him so he had ID. An email account was created so he could log into his universal credit account and an appointment arranged with the JobCentre. For more financial support, Justlife applied for a bus pass so he could travel for free which has given him more independence.

When asked about how Justlife have supported him, he said "they've listened, they've been there, and no matter when I've phoned up or what questions I've asked, they've always responded and sorted things out for me straight away, which I could never sort out for myself. I could never understand some of the mail, I could never understand the jargon that housing or other places have said to me without their help so they've been there as a voice, and an ear for me as well."

Remedi delivering early intervention with young people

A young person was referred to the service due to their disruptive behaviour within school and an incident of assault outside of school. The young person completed work surrounding anger, consequential thinking, family relationships and healthy relationships such as identifying red flags and who to speak to and the influence of friendships/ social media.

"The young person engaged really well, she demonstrated an amazing attitude towards changing her behaviour and working cooperatively with the professionals wanting to help her. Initially, this young person was only able to meet on her lunch breaks due to such poor attendance; however, she was more than happy to do this, and the school have since allowed us to change this to an hour slot outside of her lunch break as the sessions have been so beneficial for her. She actively tries to implement the strategies discussed, for example her attendance has risen from around 40% to up into the 80's since she began the sessions".

School have commented on how much they have noticed her behaviour and attitude towards school has changed. And the worker is starting to see a much more confident and happier young person.

Priorities for 2023/24

During 2023/24 the Manchester CSP will continue to invest in early intervention and prevention initiatives, shifting work upstream, providing support to children and families.

We will also retain the focus on supporting those individuals with complex needs to ensure that they receive the right support at the right time.

The CSP will continue to invest in workforce development, with a particular focus on trauma informed approaches and cultural competency. This will allow the CSP and partners to continue to embed a trauma informed approach to interventions, tackle inequality, and contribute to Making Manchester Fairer for our residents and visitors.



Oldham

Oldham's 3 Year plan was finalised in 2022. It recognises the statutory duties of the CSP, the Greater Manchester Mayoral priorities, as contained within the Greater Manchester Police and Crime Plan and the local priorities for the residents of Oldham. A public facing version of the plan is being developed in 2023. Each thematic area has its own delivery plan, with a nominated lead officer to drive the partnership work.

The CSP has aligned activity, funded by the Deputy Mayor, with each of the objectives of the Plan on a Page, to ensure that delivery meets these objectives to tackle:

- Misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances
- Reducing re-offending
- Neighbourhood working and problem solving (PBI)
- Violence reduction
- Preventing serious and organised crime.

Peaceful Minds

Peaceful Minds have provided counselling and therapeutic family support to a number of individuals and family members who were referred into their service. Each individual referred had been affected by domestic abuse and many had identified adverse lived experiences.

Through this work, individuals have opened up about their experiences and developed coping strategies which have improved mental health, reduced levels of anxiety and helped individuals and families to make positive changes to their lives. "After receiving counselling and especially Family Therapy, I feel I can openly communicate with my children about the trauma we all faced without having to act as if nothing happened and everything is normal.

"I know I may have to see my ex-partner again in Court, for access for my youngest son in the future, but feel I am getting stronger day by day as I have a good support network around me now."

SAWN - Support and action for African families

SAWN have supported a number of women, providing a peer support network, helping them to overcome isolation and access support through their recovery from domestic violence and abuse.

Many of the women do not have recourse to public funds and SAWN has helped them with sourcing funds from the Household Fund which has allowed them to buy clothes and furniture and pay essential bills. Individuals have also been supported to make visa changes and with immigration appeals. They have been accompanied to appointments and the team have acted as advocates in Court, providing emotional support. One individual was referred to Agatha's Space, which is a safe confidential space for Black African women living with HIV. Another individual, who was on a student visa, has since graduated and completed her master's degree. She has progressed from being a domestic abuse victim to a survivor and an empowered independent woman.

REEL

REEL worked with a number of women as part of their Rise Up Women Enrichment Group.

Participants welcomed the opportunity to network with other women and gave very good feedback about the project, making particular reference to the honesty that was present in the conversation and that it allowed confidence and self-esteem to be built.

UK Education and Faith Foundation

As part of the project, the team supported a woman who was in the country on a student visa to leave a violent and abusive relationship. She was subject to both emotional and physical abuse and her husband was financially controlling. She was supported to move into independent living with her children. The woman has said that she is grateful for all the support she received as she would never have had the courage to leave her husband. She now feels much stronger and wants to offer her own time and life experience to assist other women who may be in the same situation as her.

Werneth and Freehold Community Development Project

WFCDP have supported a number of individuals, one of which is a man who was subject to controlling behaviour from his wife. He had been struggling with his own mental wellbeing because of the domestic abuse. He wasn't able to work or attend training to improve his financial situation at home and had felt too embarrassed to explore or talk to anyone about this. Through WFCDP he obtained information and resources and was signposted to services which he feels have improved his mental wellbeing. He feels that since he has expressed and addressed his concerns at home, he has been able to access resources that have assisted him to make positive changes. He feels he has benefitted by this support and intervention; he feels more in control of his life and has goals for the future that he is looking forward to.



The Climb Project – District Youth Team

A targeted intervention programme to build on positive behaviours and leadership, it is co-delivered between district youth staff and specialist workers over a 6-week period, addressing the needs of the individuals in a creative and engaging way. The climb is based on a series of personal challenges that includes building on skills such as communication, leadership, confidence, problem solving and motivation, finishing with a 'Climb' that saw the young people call upon their new skills to complete the final challenge of climbing Mam Tor in Derbyshire.

Objectives for the programme included:

- Learning new skills in order to make more positive choices in their life.
- Building confidence and resilience.
- Giving young people the chance to take part in activities they may never have experienced before.
- Empowering young people to build their confidence around their future ambitions and aspirations.
- Enabling young people to have fun while improving their communication and listening skills.
- Ensuring young people understand their own responsibility transitioning into adulthood.
- Helping the young people to achieve AQA Accredited outcomes for their commitment to the programme.

Outcomes for the group:

- A local councillor attended the Mam Tor climb, and this gave the young people the opportunity to feed back some of their issues and ensure their voice is being heard.
- Each young person achieved 12 AQA's for the project as a recognised accreditation. These will benefit them in either future education or employment settings.

- It improved young people's determination and resilience; this was proven with the 'never give up attitude'
- They gained improved communication skills.
- There was a noticeable difference in young people's confidence from assessment before the programme and when completed, all young people said they felt more confident to deal with everyday things.
- The young people learnt to reflect on some of their past behaviours and spoke openly and honestly about the risks they have taken and how they will reduce these in the future.
- Young people improved their creativity skills looking at different ways to approach problems and will be able to use these skills in future endeavours.

Early Break

Early Break delivered a Young Person's Advocacy Project and 'Stressed out Brain' activities were also delivered to targeted young people.

Positive Steps well-being coaches

The well-being coaches delivered sessions with young people engaged with the youth justice service in a safe nurturing environment. Through the sessions they explored their thoughts and feelings. The sessions focussed on drivers of behaviour, triggers and coping strategies. Through this offer, young people were able to be honest and open about their lives, what was happening to them and how they were impacted. Through this nurturing approach, opportunities for the future were identified, to prevent further offending. Where appropriate young people were also offered additional counselling sessions



Rochdale

Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership (SCP) have identified five priorities for protecting and strengthening communities and places. These are the areas that really need attention, although other issues will continue to be addressed.

Rochdale's five priorities aim to ensure that people and communities in Rochdale are:

- Free from the harm of domestic abuse and violence
- Free from the harm of organised crime and exploitation
- Safe from crime and antisocial behaviour
- Able to enjoy themselves in the town centres
- Able to live, work, learn and socialise in harmony.

The five priorities align to the GM Police and Crime "Standing Together" Plan priorities.

This is how Rochdale have used some of the funding:

RAFC Community Trust: Expanded the Premier League Kicks programme to enable additional weekly football sessions at identified locations, alongside a youth mentoring programme led by Military Veterans. Weekly football sessions across five locations (totalling 8 hours of delivery) were delivered for 20 weeks by Rochdale AFC Community Trust Coaches, alongside Aspire2Inspire.

- Over the course of the project, 277 young people engaged in the football sessions
- 100% of young people were more active or enjoyed playing sports more
- 100% felt more confident working in a team
- 94% were more willing to try new things
- 92% felt more confident about themselves



Littleborough Boxing Club

Developing an 8 to 10 team primary school football league providing more sporting options for the young people of Littleborough and surrounding areas. This includes a 10 team league that will give 150 local children access to a league in which they would play 9 games over the duration of the school year giving significant improvements to local health and wellbeing.

The project has engaged with over 5000 local children (repeat footfall) and this number will increase as the project is to be delivered in full at the end of July.

It has given 124 girls under the age of 11 their first game of football and has given the borough a huge social benefit to local people who have been given an opportunity that wouldn't have existed without this support.

BASA CIC – BASA Community Connect Project

Working in collaboration with organisations to strengthen the relationship between diverse communities. The vision was to increase the number of participants in training programmes, hiking expeditions, sporting events, focus groups and be a part of an established organisation which brings together communities to improve health, mentally and physically.

- Over 50 men from diverse backgrounds participated, including people from Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Indian and white British heritage
- Over 30 women participated, mainly from ethnic minority backgrounds
- 30 teenagers joined the weekly football sessions
- White Ribbon Campaign with Rochdale Borough Council (RBC). Football match between RBC and BASA to raise awareness of domestic abuse in the ethnic minority community
- 5 weeks arts & crafts sessions for the youth with approximately 10 - 15 children per session
- Personal evaluations and case studies indicated the positive reduction in loneliness and isolation

Lamet Habayeb

Developing 'Walk and Talk' coffee mornings particularly for the Arab female community with the intention of using the sessions to empower people to discuss important community safety issues including: crime within the community, tackling substance misuse, ASB, offending, issues facing young people and developing community cohesion.

- 50 women attended the coffee mornings and shared their experiences of living in the Rochdale borough.
- 50 women were educated on how to access support in terms of domestic abuse.
- Different speakers came to the coffee mornings to speak to the women about what help is available. E.g. Rochdale Women's Welfare Association, British Red Cross, Become United etc.
- Various family days out to Springfield Park, Broadfield Park, Hollingworth Lake, Watergrove reservoir, Greenbooth reservoir, Plattfields (Manchester) which increased social cohesion and sense of belonging.

Salford

Salford Community Safety Partnership and its priorities in 2022/23 and 2023/24

Salford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) are driving forward five priorities that reflect our most pressing community safety issues as identified through needs assessments and by listening to the views of those living and working in the city. The Partnership priorities are:

- Driving down crime
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Building resilient communities
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Reducing offending

These five priority areas are broad in their spectrum and therefore the CSP has identified issues of importance within each of these priorities and these are as follows:

- Volume crime within neighbourhoods
- Serious and organised crime
- Serious violent crime (including knife crime)
- Community cohesion and hate crime
- Radicalisation and extremism
- Community confidence
- Domestic abuse
- Alcohol misuse
- Youth crime prevention
- Young and adult re-offenders

Safe in Salford

In 2021/22, Salford brought together all domestic abuse services funding and commissioned a whole system approach based on a lead provider model.

The commissioned partnership is led by Salford Foundation, alongside the Pankhurst Trust, Talk, Listen, Change (TLC) and Trafford Domestic Abuse Services (TDAS).

The services became operational from April 2022 and deliver:

- A crisis service - Independent Advocates for victims
- Step down/community support for victims
- Specialist support for GPs (IRIS)
- Children and young people's support (Harbour)
- Behaviour change programmes for perpetrators

The delivery model is based on a "one front door" approach to ensure a seamless, flexible and accessible service to all. The model is already showing achievements, with positive relationships and co-location established with GMP, LGBT Foundation, Rape Crisis, Housing, Welfare Rights, Silks Law clinic, Counselling students, Probation and Achieve.

"One front door"

This approach is a delivery model to ensure a seamless, flexible and accessible service to all.

Youth Crime Reparation

Using funding from the Deputy Mayor, Salford City Council has been able to expand the youth crime reparation project. These additional resources have supported enhanced activity and capacity to the work the young people have been taking part in:

Community café – The assigned support worker has supported young people to attend the 'brew and a chat' coffee morning whereby members of the group get together in a bid to tackle loneliness within the elderly community. This placement allows for a real organic, intergenerational discussion which the young people often haven't experienced before. It also helps the members of the group increase their confidence in young people and see them in a more positive light. The young people that have attended so far have really enjoyed this placement and get a lot out of helping out there.

Love of Food – This is a charitable organisation that make and deliver good quality, nutritious meals to support families, veterans and pensioners in Salford. This placement has been a great opportunity for young people to learn new skills (food preparation and hygiene). One young person who really enjoyed the placement has now gone on to volunteer at this placement to gain experience for his future aspiration of becoming a chef.

Over the Christmas period, the support worker and several young people supported the organisation to host a Christmas dinner for the community over 5 days. This was a great learning opportunity for the young people involved as they were able to focus on issues such as food poverty, loneliness at Christmas and turn this into a really positive experience for the members. It created a great sense of pride for the young people that they were able to help in some way.

Hate crime

To meet the needs of Salford's growing Muslim population a new Mosque and Islamic centre is being developed from an empty shop in Salford. The group developing the Mosque have held their initial prayer meetings in a local hall and have been made very welcome by the community.

It was a shock when the shop started to be a hate crime target. This included malicious letters and social media and targeted damage at the premises. These anonymous crimes have been very disturbing for Mosque members, worrying about what might happen next. The Mosque was assisted by Salford City Council to report each hate crime to GMP and a local third-party reporting centre, gather evidence and get support. They have also been encouraged through a multi-agency approach to apply for funding to support building security and incorporate this into their building plans.

GMP carry out extra patrols of the building, with additional patrols for Friday night prayer and Eid as standard. Local Elected Members and the Council's Highways team are working in partnership to develop other necessary security infrastructure. Community Cohesion plans include developing a neighbouring derelict piece of land into a community garden.

'brew and a chat'

A coffee morning whereby members of the group get together in a bid to tackle loneliness within the elderly community.

Langworthy Live

In July 2022 Claremont, Weaste and Seedley Standing Together and Ordsall, Quays, Pendleton & Charlestown Standing Together contributed funding towards the Langworthy Live festival. Funding was also provided by the Life Centre and Salford CVS plus from ticket sales the previous year. This event is an annual festival that has taken place for two consecutive years and takes place on and around the Langworthy Road, Weaste area of the city.

It is described as a community festival with a difference. The event organisers host live music and performances inside the local shops of the high street. These shops include dry cleaners, barbers, restaurants, community centres and pubs. The festival aims to bring the community together and give local residents the chance to experience a variety of music tastes, arts and culture. The local area is undergoing change due to regeneration programmes and a changing demographic amongst residents. The area has seen an increasingly diverse profile of residents. The festival pro-actively brings new emerging community members together across a range of ages and backgrounds, promoting a sense of community.

Feedback from the festival was really positive:

"I loved what this event says to everyone – a place of incredible creativity, community and hope".

"Langworthy Live lifts the local community in gentle and subtle but lasting and beautiful ways. Bringing hope, joy and fun to those who are part of it or just who happen to be walking past it".

"My family and I wouldn't normally be able to afford to attend a music festival but this gave us the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic event in our community".



Little Hulton

In Little Hulton Salford Safer Communities Partnership used the Deputy Mayor's funding towards a partnership between Foundation 92 and the Johan Cruyff Foundation for Housing and Salford City Council to be able to construct a new Cruyff Court in Little Hulton, Salford. This new facility enhances the delivery of football, sport, and physical activity sessions in the Little Hulton area and serves as a new communal space for the people of Little Hulton.

A state-of-the-art pitch is the first of its kind in Salford, and only the second in Greater Manchester. The Partnership, with local communities, are now utilising the pitch to enhance the delivery programmes in Little Hulton, ranging from Premier League Kicks to free Club 92 multi-sports outreach sessions.

Miranda van Holstein of the Cruyff Foundation commented :

"We're delighted to be opening this first Cruyff Court in Salford together with Foundation 92. This project is the kick off to what we hope is a long-term sustainable partnership. Cruyff Courts represent a fantastic asset for the local community and provide children and young people with a safe space to have fun together and grow through sports. This Cruyff Court will greatly benefit the community of Salford for the next decade at least."

The pitch was officially opened in March 2023 by Manchester United class of 92 and other invited officials and is used daily by numerous individuals of all ages and is a fantastic asset to the area.

Detached Youth Project - Broughton

The aim of the project was to address the need for youth outreach in the Broughton area to expand and build on the successful engagement of large groups of young people in the area where 'Mancunian Way' had been delivering. Funded by the Deputy Mayor, a weekly outreach session ran from July 2022 until March 2023, building capacity and restoring community confidence. The project engaged with more than 150 young people in the local area over the age of 12 and more than 50 young people under 12.



Stockport

One Stockport Safety Partnership

At the heart of the One Stockport Safety Partnership Plan 2022-2025, which outlines our ambitions for community safety across the borough over the coming three years. The Plan has been refreshed following the launch of the shared One Stockport Borough Plan and is a key component to supporting our shared ambitions for the borough. Our plan supports the Greater Manchester Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2022-25, whilst reflecting the local context and challenges facing us in Stockport.

The plan acknowledges the challenges presented by Covid-19 pandemic such as domestic violence, impact of loneliness and mental health and inequality as long-term issues. The plan will support the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act and the Serious Violence Duty, which include the need for a problem profile and needs assessment and to develop and publish a local strategy. The community safety strategic assessment, which underpins the priority areas for action outlined in this Plan, reinforces our recognition that crime and disorder is not spread equally across Stockport and disproportionately affects our most deprived areas.

The key strategic priorities for the next three years will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The three priorities for the refreshed plan are:

- Protecting vulnerable people.
- Public safety and protection.
- Reducing offending and re-offending.

For each of the strategic priorities, it provides an annual action plan of key multi-agency activity and interventions to address the priority issues. Through a performance framework, they continue to keep track of progress in delivering these priorities, identifying emerging issues and

opportunities to make Stockport a safer place to live, work and visit.

Key Deliverables over the past twelve months include:

- Develop education programme to offer learning across a range of platforms, which will support the community by making it more confident to talk about domestic abuse and respond to it appropriately and safely.
- Raise awareness of hate crime and its impact – both public awareness and awareness within agencies, for example, through the Greater Manchester "Let's End Hate Crime" campaign brand and work to support Hate Crime Week.
- Develop a clear multi-agency pathway for responding to child criminal exploitation and county lines, including clear practical guidance for individual cases comprising the relevant roles of individual agencies (who does what, when and how).
- Proactive promotion of the application of Stalking Protection Orders and training relating to these orders, as well as ensuring that the victims of stalking and harassment receive the care and support that they need.
- Ensure the partnerships addresses the new serious violence duty set out in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act, building on this to enhance our approach to serious violence.
- Implement effective early measures to prevent ASB occurring, including youth diversionary activities developed through the RTime model (a joint working approach involving Life Leisure, Stockport Council and Stockport Homes working in partnership) and developing Neighbourhood Action Plans to address ASB in those neighbourhoods identified as hotspot areas.

- Addressing the accommodation needs of offenders is a key priority. It is important to consider what can be done to secure more local housing for offenders, both short and long-term, to financially support offenders in housing and to provide life skills support for offenders in accommodation to stabilise their tenancies and lives.
- Engage with other drug users using premises via texting to offer access to prescribing services/ support.
- Prepare other civil enforcement action including but not limited to Civil Injunctions.
- Develop an enhanced schools-based and early help offer through targeted youth support that is aligned to the placed-based and early help delivery models to contribute to locality working and ensure that the education and wider early help offer for young people at risk is as robust as it can be.

The Deputy Mayor's funding has meant that Stockport have been able to support a wide range of projects and initiatives, including:

Cuckoo programme

The Deputy Mayor's funding was used to establish a local pilot project to support victims of cuckooing. The project involved a dedicated officer working alongside GMP and other agencies/teams to support victims of cuckooing, other drug users accessing the premises, and where appropriate perpetrators if they are drug and alcohol users. The objectives of the project were to be a specialist outreach service which would:

- Establish an increased understanding of the extent of the problem of cuckooing in Stockport.
- Provide an immediate support system to victims of cuckooing including visiting clients in custody, providing pay-as-you-go phones, practical help, and support.
- Provide harm reduction and facilitate access to substance misuse treatment, wider health services, support, and recovery for victims.
- Support the victim with the criminal justice process.
- Support GMP/council with partial or full closure orders if necessary.



No Cold Calling

The funding paid for setting up six new No Cold Calling zones in Heaton Norris, Heaton Moor, two in Woodley and two in Cheadle covering approximately 1,200 households. No Cold Calling Zones aim to decrease doorstep crime incidents by specifying a zone in which doorstep callers selling goods or offering their services are not welcome. Each household received a No Cold Calling zone pack containing a letter explaining a No Cold Calling zone was being set up in their area, a No Cold Calling sticker and information about what a No Cold Calling zone is. Street signs were erected in the zones highlighting the area as a No Cold Calling zone.

GMP Crime Reduction Co-ordinator worked with Trading Standards, the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, and Police cadets to set up the zones and deliver the packs and raise awareness of doorstep crime and crime prevention measures within local communities. This work was supported by local councillors. The local councillor and cadets received positive feedback from local residents when the zones were being set up. The work was completed in April 2023 and the intention is to evaluate the project after 6 months to assess their effectiveness and see if the level of doorstep crime has reduced and gather some qualitative data from residents capturing their perceptions of the effectiveness of the No Cold Calling zones.

Girls programme

The partnership funded a Specialist Girls Football Programme in alliance with Stockport Country Foundation. This was identified by girls as a gap; girls felt that most local provision provided for young people was male dominated. This had a big impact around early intervention and diversionary support on vulnerable young females referred from targeted youth provision. A big driver for reducing crime and antisocial behaviour is sport and by funding this programme we have built resilience, confidence and allowed girls their own positive designated intervention that respects their personal safety whilst allowing them to learn new skills.



Quotes from girls who have participated in the programme:

“Training sessions are set up to approach a new skill in mini play fun drills then bring that into a game, with challenges or targets being set to try and get to, not just aim to score. I feel connected to the other participants. It is a real confidence boost when you and another person can pass the ball into a good position.”

“I haven’t explored the options in football teams, but I think that the Stockport County girls football training has progressed my skills and love for the game.”

Stockport College – MACFEST event

Stockport College were successful in securing hate crime funding in 2022. This was used to hold a Muslim Arts and Culture Festival (MACFEST) in the college and included an event which was designed and delivered by the college students. The idea behind MACFEST is to “spread honey not hate” and celebrated Muslim heritage and culture. Students and staff were encouraged to wear traditional clothes and celebrate their culture through music and dance, an art exhibition, makeup, and henna tattoo demonstrations. The event was featured in a student newsletter and included photographs as well as student testimonials and feedback on the positive event, and the impact it had across the college.

Disability Stockport

Disability Stockport applied for funding in 2022 and were successful in their bid for an event aimed at disabled Stockport residents and their carers. The event, held at Disability Stockport’s offices, gave people an important opportunity to share their stories and learn from others’ experiences. The event also reminded those present of how to report hate crimes in Stockport, and the importance of reporting all incidents, as well as how to seek support after an incident. Over 35 people attended on the day from across the Disability Stockport community network.



Stockport Women and Girls Network (SWAG)

SWAG Network is working in partnership with OWLS to develop culturally appropriate grassroots provision for women and girls from Black and Minority Ethnic communities. We have been gathering evidence, feedback, and data for the past 12 months to show the needs and demands of culturally appropriate support for Black and Minority Ethnic families that are experiencing domestic violence, including involving those that have lived experience and want to offer peer support to other women and girls in Stockport. We will be focussing on trafficking, forced prostitution, and modern slavery, psychological abuse and trauma related mental stress, with a huge emphasis on the work being culturally appropriate and accessible to all sectors across the borough. The resources we are working with will be available in a training and peer support format.

Priorities for 2023/24

- On 8 February 2023, [The Independent Prevent Review](#) was published nationally and highlighted 34 recommendations to improve our approach to reducing radicalisation. These will now be considered via Stockport’s existing Prevent structures and filter into refreshing the Stockport Prevent Strategy and Stockport Prevent Partnership action plan.
- The recently published [Josh McAllister Review of Social Care](#) has led to a series of consultations around changes, which could impact on safeguarding children in domestic abuse households. They will be working with their safeguarding partners to respond to its recommendations.
- They will use existing tactical meetings to improve multi-agency working and develop closer working relationships with GMP to improve their approach to tackling domestic burglary and car crime. Oversight for this will sit with the Partnership Delivery Group and we will strengthen their data led approach using

a dashboard report to understand crime in our neighbourhoods, identify peak times of activity, hot spots and trends.

- They will continue to implement our Safer Streets Programme focusing on detached youth work, diversionary activities, implementing a better secure linkage of CCTV in Merseyway and providing improved cameras in the town centre and additional security guards at ASB hot spots (such as during school holidays), and they are piloting a mentoring scheme in partnership with Groundwork and Stockport College.
- The Serious Violence Duty (SVD) came into effect on 31 January 2023. This is a statutory requirement, and the partnership has the oversight for this, and will be required to produce a Strategic Needs Assessment amongst other requirements, such as a partnership agreement and provisional delivery plans, to be in place by January 2024.
- They will develop and implement a refreshed corporate Parenting Strategy for 2023-2026.
- They will develop and implement our annual youth justice plan and targeted youth support.
- They will implement the Adolescent Safeguarding Framework and develop further their adolescent offer to young people.

Tameside

“Tameside Community Safety Partnership (CSP) believes that the people of this borough have the right to be and feel safe. The Partnership are committed to working together to reduce crime and disorder, thereby creating an environment in which the people of Tameside will be free from crime and will feel more secure from crime at home, at work and in public places.”

The CSP has identified five key priorities in its 2022-25 strategy in order to make Tameside a safer place to live, study, work and visit:

- Building stronger communities
- Preventing and reducing violent crime, knife crime and domestic abuse
- Preventing and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
- Preventing and reducing harm caused by drugs and alcohol
- Protecting vulnerable people and those at risk of exploitation

The work of the CSP also aligns with the priorities of the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor’s Police and Crime Plan “Standing Together” that are:

- To keep people safe
- To reduce harm and offending
- To strengthen communities and place

Grant funded projects:

Safe Squad: Tameside youth services and multiple partners came together to deliver Safe Squad, a school initiative for year 6 pupils. There was a themed approach to capture the identified elements of learning for all year 6 pupils leaving Key Stage 2 education and moving up into Key Stage 3.

There were three themes, each having clear learning outcomes attached to them:

- Digital safety - cyber bullying, child sexual exploitation and grooming, web safety and social media safety, including data capture from young people.
- Personal safety - self-respect, anti-social behaviour, racism, discrimination and transition to new school safety, this also includes hate crime and its effects. This year an interactive drama was filmed, using real life settings. The film included freeze frame, giving children the chance to discuss what they had just seen, identifying possible dangers or legal issues.
- Community safety - fire hazard spotting, danger, response, summon help, breathing training covering things such as the recovery position, how to get help and keep themselves safe whilst helping others and bonfire night safety.

Outcomes:

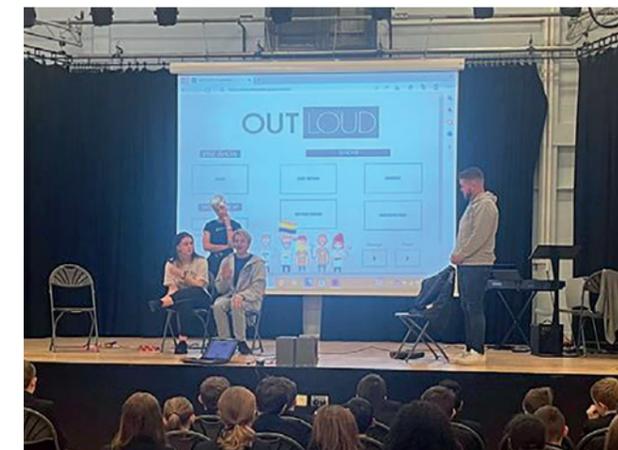
- Each workshop lasted 40 minutes, so the children’s session lasted two hours in total
- Delivered in two schools each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, over a six week period
- In total 59 Tameside primary schools took part in the event
- A grand total of 2,382 year 6 pupils attended the workshops



Arts Awards: Working with schools across Tameside to complete Arts Award projects linked to ‘Staying Safe’ with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing and ‘Keen to be Green’ linked to the environment. ‘Arts Award’ is a nationally recognised range of unique qualifications which helps young people to grow as artists and arts leaders, inspiring them to connect with and take part in the wider arts world through taking challenges in an art form.

Outcomes:

- 15 schools participated in the project.
- A total of 630 students participated in the project receiving an Arts Award
- Through the project, students attained a greater understanding of personal safety, road safety and online safety.



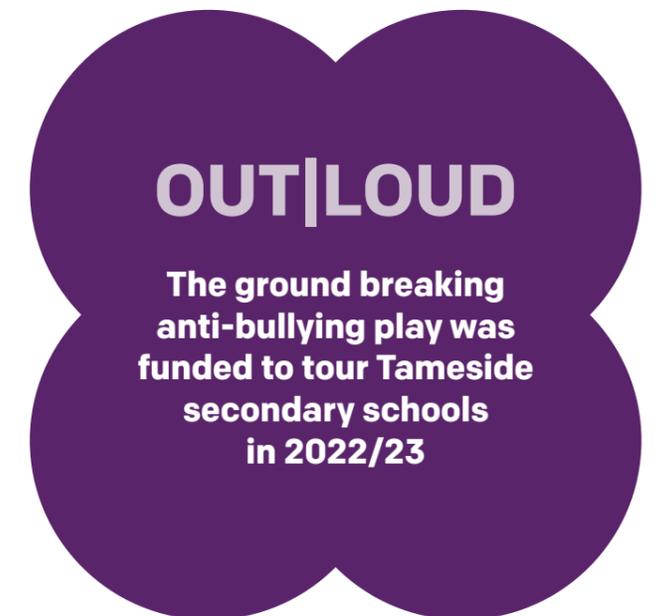
OUT|LOUD:

The ground breaking anti-bullying play was funded to tour Tameside secondary schools 2022/23. Schools in Tameside were given the opportunity to raise awareness and understanding of diversity and discrimination with the play and workshop.

The tour took place across two runs during Anti-Bullying Month and LGBTQ+ History Month. The tour also aligned with Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week, which aimed to raise awareness about hate crime and promote acceptance and diversity in the community.

Outcomes:

- A total of 30 performances were delivered across 13 schools and Pupil Referral Units engaging with 2,489 students.
- 87% of students believe that watching a play is more effective than a lesson on this topic.
- 78% of students would challenge homophobic bullying after watching OUT|LOUD



Trafford

In Trafford, following the pandemic, we refreshed our vision statement to “Trafford – Where all our residents, businesses and communities prosper”. To achieve this, we are focused on three outcomes. These are:

- All our residents will have access to quality learning, training and jobs.
- All our communities will be happy, healthy and safe.
- All our businesses and town centres will be supported to recover and flourish in an inclusive way.

The CSP has a key role to play so that these outcomes can be achieved.

Following consultation with residents, businesses and elected members, the Community Safety Partnership agreed three key priority areas:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Neighbourhood crime
- Domestic abuse

We also have a focus on hate crime, and on reducing serious violence as a result of incidents which have had an impact on local communities.

The partnership receives an update on the work in these areas at every community safety partnership meeting and prioritises funding aimed at tackling these priorities.

The community safety team

The community safety team at Trafford is a very small team. There are 4 Officers for the whole borough which is home to 235,000 residents and around 11,000 businesses. The team have responsibility for case management, including investigations, low level resolution up to enforcement action, including preparing legal cases and attending court. They also take responsibility for prevention work which can include delivering talks in schools, attending community events, and running sessions on particular subjects across the borough. They support police operations, and partnership days of action and they co-ordinate multi-agency responses to community safety issues. The team have recently completed a Level 4 Crime Prevention Qualification and we have set up the ‘Safer Homes Scheme’, jointly funded with Housing Options which aims to allow people to remain in their homes with additional security measures.



How our funding is used:

The work of the partnership is supported by projects that are funded through the Deputy Mayor’s funding.

The grant has funded the charity ‘Mancunian Way’ who provide youth outreach, in particular focusing on reducing anti-social behaviour in public spaces. They deliver two weekday sessions per week and during school holidays; they also deliver sessions at the weekend. They have provided a series of workshops on topics such as knife crime and criminal exploitation and their conversations with young people provide insight into what is happening in communities and how young people are feeling.

In addition, they have linked in with other projects, identifying young people who would most benefit. For example, in the summer of 2022, we ran a number of projects funded through the GM VRU to suppress violence over the summer, and Mancunian Way helped with the groundwork of identifying young people, linking in with schools, community safety, children’s social care, and the police. They arranged for parental consent and they attended to support projects.

The Deputy Mayor’s funding was also used for a project aimed at teaching primary school children about racism. We were pleased to be able to support this project, as our hate crime data shows race to be the most commonly reported type of hate crime in Trafford. The project is based around a book, and a story circle is created in a school, and led by a teacher who has received training. The story provides a vehicle for discussion and to explore issues around racism and intolerance in a safe way. As part of the project, children create artwork which is showcased at an exhibition and is uploaded online to be displayed with artwork from children taking part across the country. The artwork is based on their own thoughts and feelings in relation to the story and the issues and gives children the opportunity to express themselves creatively. Each piece of art represents hours of discussion that the children have had.

The Deputy Mayor’s funding was also used in work with Foundation 92, to run a sports-based programme in ASB hotspot areas. Foundation 92 have a good track record since they began offering programmes in Trafford and we have seen a reduction in the amount of calls relating to anti-social behaviour in the areas that they have targeted. Other items that the grant has funded have been Trafford Veterans, Trafford Domestic Abuse Service, Men at Work, Freedom Personal Safety and Community Safety Matters.

Case study:

The partnership used funds to support ‘Operation Lioness’ which was a week of action to raise awareness about violence against women and girls.

In Trafford the week started with a visit to Stretford High School from Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham and Trafford Council’s Executive Member Councillor Jo Harding.

The students watched the #IsThisOK? video and had a discussion with Jo and Andy about their experiences and what we could do better. For the remainder of the week of action, we ran awareness stands across Trafford, gave talks at community groups, ran a campaign about drink-spiking, provided drink spiking kits to licensed premises and a guide as to what they should do if they suspect someone has been spiked, and we ran training sessions based on #10Dialogues.

Work is ongoing and the partnership is currently developing a schools based charter and training offer to support schools in managing this issue.

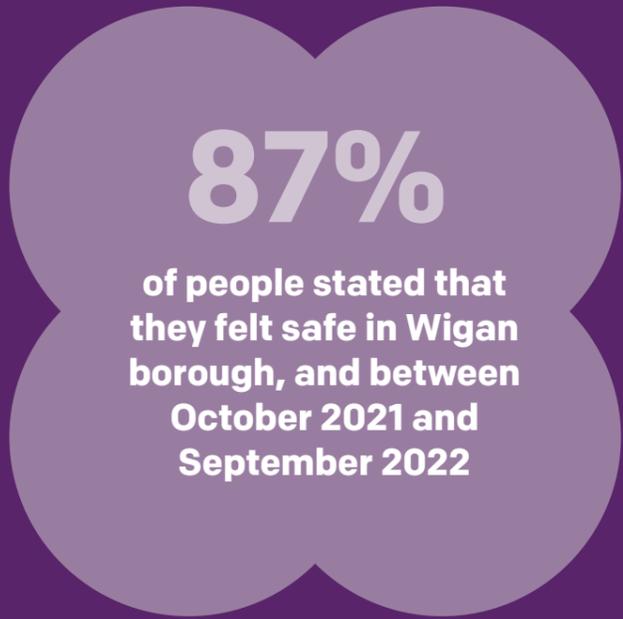
Wigan

The Community Safety Partnership is formed from key partners, delivering a wide-ranging set of projects to reduce crime and improve safety in the borough.

Where data is available, between October 2021 and September 2022, 87% of people stated that they felt safe in Wigan borough, and between October 2021 and September 2022, there was a 6% increase in the number of people who strongly agree that the Community Safety Partnership is tackling community safety issues in Wigan borough, showing that the work of the partnership is having a significant impact.

Board priorities are:

- Community safety
- Anti-social behaviour
- Organised crime
- Domestic abuse
- Safety of women at night
- Youth offender management
- Gender-based violence



Partnership highlights



Safety of women at night

The partnership delivered this programme following a successful Home Office funding bid, allowing investment in proactive safety campaigns like 'Get Home Safe' and 'Call it Out', in addition to promoting the national Ask for Angela campaign, providing welfare and vulnerability training to seventy-four licensed venues across the borough.



Purple flag status

Leading the way, Wigan Council put together plans and initiatives to improve Wigan Town Centre, resulting in the achievement of Purple Flag status. Purple Flag status is awarded to towns and cities that can demonstrate excellence in managing the evening and night-time economy in ways which are diverse, vibrant, safe, attractive, and welcoming.

Neighbourhood Policing Model

The implementation of the new neighbourhood policing model saw an increase in the number of PCs across Wigan, with three dedicated teams covering the borough. Each area has a dedicated Inspector, three sergeants and fifteen PC's:



CCTV capital investment

Continuing support to Town Centre safety and regeneration, the council agreed a capital investment of over £400,000 from its Cabinet Fund, introducing new cameras and upgrading CCTV schemes in Wigan, Leigh, Ashton, and Pemberton.

This has greatly improved access to higher grade CCTV footage and supports the aim to detect, deter and prosecute crimes more effectively.

This is just a flavour of the hard work taking place across the borough to keep residents safe and shows the breadth and ambition of the Council and partners to improve people's lives and make the borough a better place to live for all communities.

Section 4

Budgets/ grants and expenditure

Police Fund 2022/23

For 2022/23, GMP and the Deputy Mayor received a core grant of £537 million, which included a ring-fenced Police Uplift grant of £7.8 million and pension grant of £6.6 million. The Mayor approved an increase of £10 to the policing precept in January 2022 - taking the annual precept for a Band D property to £228.30 in 2022/23 which raised £181.3m in locally raised precept income. This provided a total resource for 2022/23 of £718.6m.

In November 2019 the government announced a plan to recruit an additional 20,000 police officers over three years, equating to 438 officers in 2022/23 across Greater Manchester (note a further 425 Police officers are to be recruited nationally as part of the uplift programme to support combating Serious Organised Crime; GMP's share is 25 officers).

This also includes an upfront contribution to the costs of new officers such as training, equipment etc. The majority of these additional officers have been in frontline policing roles, where numbers have increased in each of the 10 districts. The budget was supported by the £20 million infrastructure funding for the new officers, front-loaded into the 2020/21 settlement. In 2022/23, £5 million was drawn from reserves to support the costs of delivery.

Over the past year, police officer numbers increased from 7,222 (at the end of March 2022) to 7942, and with agreement of the Home Office, GMP recruited a further 125 officers to give a final headcount of 8067 officers at the end of March 2023.

This increase has supported improvements in 999 and 101 answering times, attendance times, burglary attendance, crime recording, reductions in neighbourhood crime and much more.

In 2022/23, the Deputy Mayor delegated a total of over £8.5m to CSPs to support their delivery of the Police and Crime Plan, collectively making communities safer and more resilient. Building on the work of previous years, the Deputy Mayor's funding means CSPs have been able to continue to work closely on both Greater Manchester and local priorities to support targeted work in neighbourhoods.

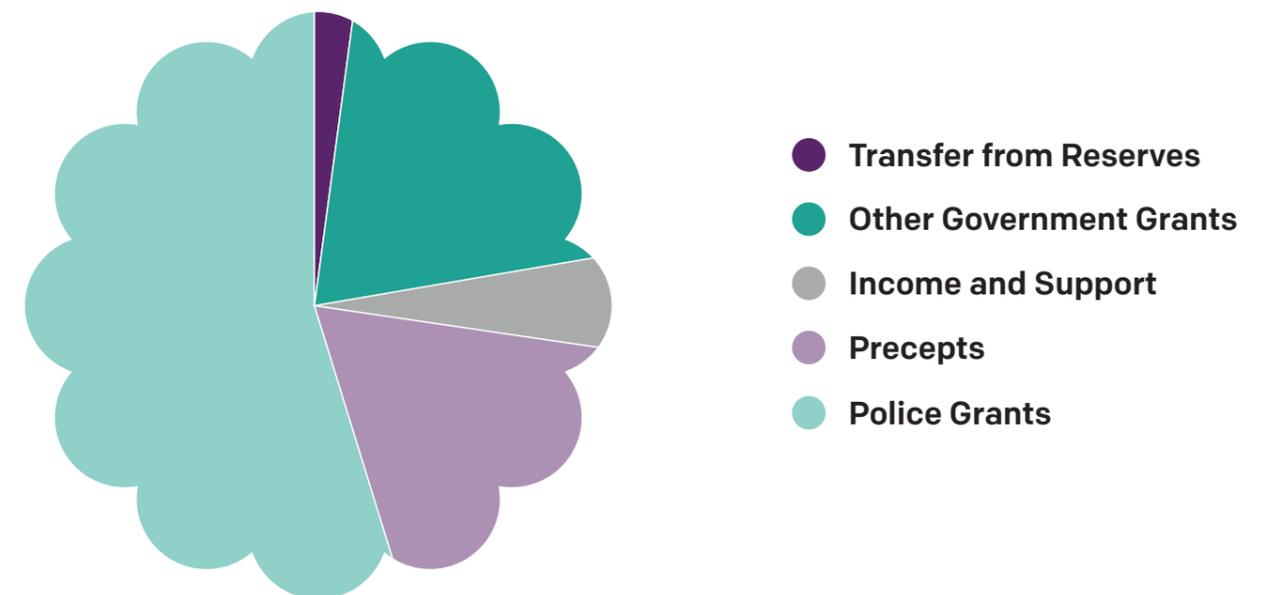
A summary of the types of the schemes and initiatives that the Voluntary and Community Sector grants have funded are set out in the investing communities' section of this report.



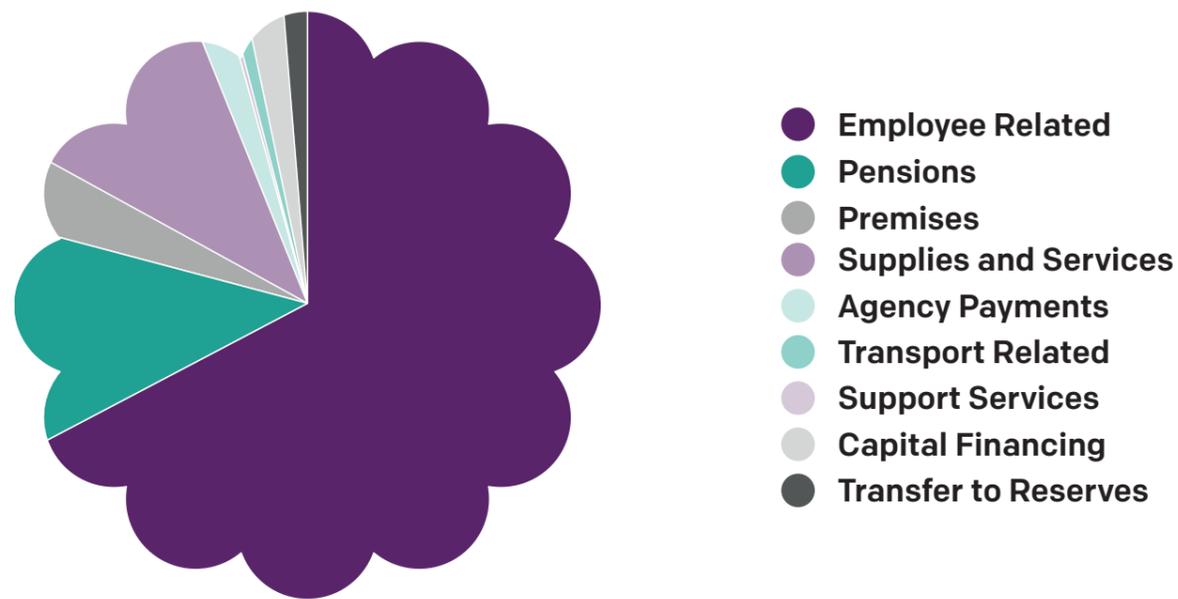
Where the money came from and how it was spent in 2022/2023

Police Fund Resources 2022/23	Police Fund Expenditure 2022/23
Transfer from Reserves (£19.6 million)	Employee Related (£659.1 million)
Other Government Grants (£194.6 million)	Pensions (£116.6 million)
Income & Sponsorship (£48.6 million)	Premises (£36.9 million)
Precepts (£177.7 million)	Supplies & Services (£106.3 million)
Police Grant (£537.3 million)	Agency Payments (£17.6 million)
	Transport Related (£8.2million)
	Support Services (£2.1 million)
	Capital Financing (£18.2 million)
	Transfer to reserves (£12.9 million)

Where the money came from 2022/2023 (£millions)



Where the money was spent 2022/2023 (£millions)



GMFRS Budget 2022/23

In 2022/23, GMFRS and the Deputy Mayor received total funding of £124m. This was made up of Government grant funding of £55.5 million including specific grant funding for pension, national insurance increase and business rates. As part of the Mayoral Precept the Mayor approved an increase of £5 (for a Band D property) for Fire and Rescue Services in 2022/23 which provided precept income of £52.8 million.

In addition, GMFRS received a 1% share of localised Business Rates growth of £9.5m, applied £6.2m of earmarked reserves and provisions and received £1.7m of other external income.

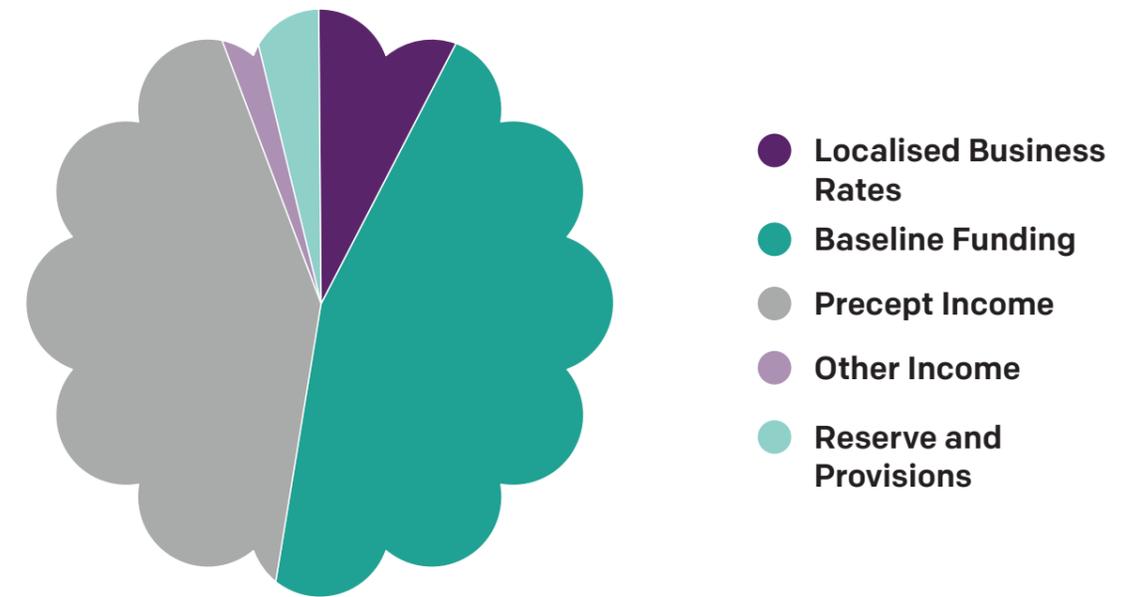
The 2022/23 financial plan for GMFRS included funding for marauding terrorist attack at a cost of £1.4m and pay award assumptions of 2%.

The most significant budget variance at the end of 2022/23 related to the employees pay and pensions budget with an overspend of £4.3m, the majority of which was due to the pay award.

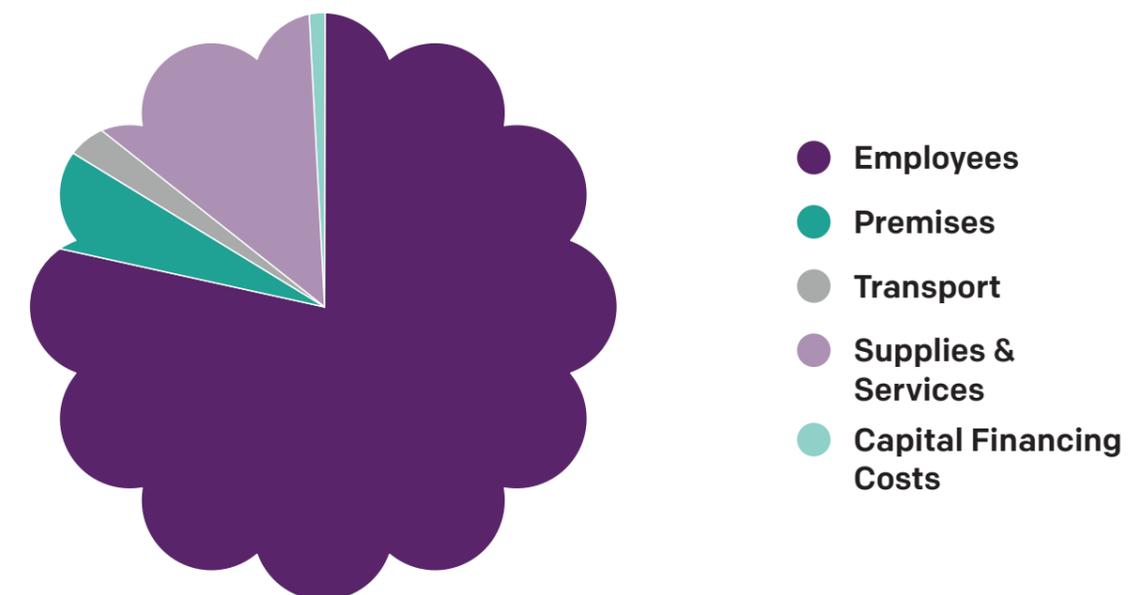
Uniformed staff pay award was agreed at 7% and non-uniformed at £1,925 per whole time equivalent. Premises related expenditure also overspent by £1.6m in the areas of utilities and fuel. The additional expenditure was funded from earmarked reserves.

GMFRS Resources 2022/23	GMFRS Expenditure 2022/23
Government Grant (£55.5 million)	Employees (£97.3 million)
Precept Income (£52.8 million)	Premises (£6.5 million)
Localised Business Rates (£9.5 million)	Transport (£2.4 million)
Reserves and Provisions (£6.2 million)	Supplies and Services (£16.7 million)
Other Income (£1.7 million)	Capital Financial Costs (£1.1million)

GMFRS - Where the money came from 2022/2023



GMFRS - Where the money was spent 2022/2023



Section 5

Forward look – our priorities for 2023/24

Policing priorities

GMP will continue to strive for further improvements throughout 2023/34 in all areas.

We expect to see significant improvements in managing custody in response to the HMICFRS inspection of custody suites, and particularly in GMP’s treatment of young and vulnerable people in custody and detention.

We expect to see improvements in the investigation of crime. GMP plan to launch their new Crime Investigation Unit in 2023, which will be a dedicated team of office-based investigators, and forms part of the Chief Constable’s vision to re-build the public’s confidence that all crimes will be investigated.

GMP have worked to understand their demand and are due to launch ‘Right Care: Right Person’ over the coming year. This will outline how GMP will work with partners to approach non crime demand differently including the launch of a new Mental Health Triage system.

We should start to see more police officers being placed into neighbourhood policing and response roles as new student officers come through training. The Casey review has placed a spotlight on the cultures, ethics, and standards that the public expects of the police. This will remain a key priority for the year ahead.

Fire and rescue priorities

Priorities for GMFRS in the coming year are set out in the Fire Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24 .

They include:

- **Implementing agreed outcomes of the fire cover review consultation**
- **Expanding and developing the Service’s youth engagement schemes**
- **Continuing to develop a culture of excellence, equality, and inclusivity**
- **Implementing the refreshed Firefighter Recruitment and Attraction Strategy**
- **Delivering under the new regulations to make our buildings safer**
- **Improving fire stations through investment in the estate**
- **Continuing to advance our blue light collaboration programmes**

Community safety partnerships bi-annual events and problem solving

Starting on 16 March 2023, the Deputy Mayor convened the first of a bi-annual series of CSP events in Greater Manchester. These events bring together the chairs of CSPs, GMP district commanders, fire leads, lead elected members and managers together with the Deputy Mayor and GMCA colleagues.

The aim is to work through challenges and opportunities for CSPs including, for example, financial challenges, new legislation and duties, and opportunities for work with GMP and GMFRS.

The March event focussed on identifying themes for multi-agency problem solving. Popular themes included the implementation of the serious violence duty, tackling high risk domestic abuse cases, mental health and non-crime police demand and anti-social behaviour. Each locality will define their problem-solving focus and these will be taken forward into problem solving masterclasses for further development. We hope that we will have 10 flagship problem solving initiatives across Greater Manchester in 2023/24, building upon other successful initiatives such as Operation Vulcan.

Tackling ASB

ASB remains the biggest factor in residents feeling unsafe in their local area (GMP and community safety survey).

In 2023, the Deputy Mayor will continue to work with partners to ensure a joined up, place-based approach to tackling ASB across Greater Manchester. This will include:

- **Supporting the collective response to the Government’s ASB powers consultation and representing Greater Manchester in any further engagement and consultation with the Home Office, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC).**
- **Supporting the development and delivery of this year’s Safe 4 Summer campaign.**
- **Working with GMP to develop an ASB hot-spot profile to guide the implementation of hot-spot policing and enforcement from 2024.**
- **Raise public awareness and understanding of the options available to them to record, report and reduce ASB in their local area.**

The Police Race Action Plan

In 2022 the NPCC and the APCC released the national Police Race Action Plan: **Improving policing for Black people** .

The plan asks that police forces focus on improving trust and confidence in Black communities. The national plan recognises that Black people experience policing powers disproportionately, that there is a 20% gap in confidence in policing between Black communities and the general population and that there is a significant lack of Black police officers, particularly in senior ranks. Much of this is mirrored in GMP’s data. A priority for the year ahead will be further developing our GM response to the Police Race Action Plan. This will focus on ensuring GMP is more representative of Black communities, does not over-police or under-protect Black communities and routinely involves Black people in its governance.

Child centred policing

The child centred policing work is centred on key areas of GMP business that impact on children. This includes custody, stop and search, culture and training, violence reduction, communication and engagement, missing children, partnership working and investigations. This is being developed with the support of partners across Greater Manchester, including children’s services, youth justice services, community groups and of course young people themselves.

Running through these is a focus on ensuring proportionality and prioritising the needs of children who experience care and adverse childhood experiences.

One area of focus is children and young people in custody and ultimately to reduce the number of young people being held in custody and improve their treatment in custody. This is an important focus given the increase in the number of children and young people in custody and detention.



Tackling serious violence

The JSNA is refreshed every year and most recently incorporated the new Serious Violence Duty. Following this and a public consultation a new Violence Reduction Strategy will be launched in 2023.

The VRU will also continue to support and further develop community led approaches and programmes, strengthen its campaigns, and support the homicide reduction strategy.

Tackling GBV

Greater Manchester will continue to deliver its 10-year strategy to tackle GBV. Key areas for the year ahead will include:

- **Creation of a Lived Experience Panel to guide the work of the GBV Board.**
- **Continued development of innovative solutions to meet the needs of those with no recourse to public funds to prevent unnecessary harm.**
- **Development of a co-produced strategy with women with disabilities and with older people around their needs in relation to GBV.**
- **Work with employers to promote Greater Manchester-wide safe workspaces for women.**
- **Delivery of a comprehensive strategy to tackle so-called 'honour based' abuse.**
- **Continue the delivery of the #IsThisOK? campaign to drive attitudinal and cultural change and challenge harassment of women and girls .**

Multi-crime support service for victims

In 2023 we will have a new multi-crime support service for victims of crime, to be co-located with GMP. The service will provide a seamless point of contact for people to access support that is both practical and therapeutic. Linked to this service will be the development of a new website for victims and survivors with an online portal so that people can directly access a range of support services.

Integrated rehabilitative services and restorative justice services

We will have a new Greater Manchester Integrated Rehabilitative Wellbeing Service in 2023. This will provide access to rehabilitative support services for people on probation in each local authority area. The services will include a money advice line, welfare benefits and debt advice, family support and links across to other services such as accommodation, employment, education and training etc.

During 2023/24 the restorative justice service will be re-commissioned. This will be developed as an Out of Court Disposal and restorative justice service.

Youth justice transformation

The Deputy Mayor will be holding a series of youth justice round tables over 2023/24. The first will focus on arrest to custody, to ensure that the child centred policing model is working effectively. The series of round tables will follow the criminal justice journey finishing with resettlement and reintegration.

Smarter justice

The Deputy Mayor has commissioned a review of demand in the criminal justice system following the declaration of a critical incident in Greater Manchester Magistrates Courts. This will form part of a Futures Programme under the Local Criminal Justice Board.

Reform of adult offender management

A new Improving Police Custody Diversion Programme is being commissioned with health colleagues, to better align rehabilitative services and behaviour change interventions at point of arrest and custody. This will also consider Out of Court Disposal options and ensure that the liaison and diversion scheme is used to optimum effect.

Improving the victim journey

A new victims strategy steering group will be launched to oversee developments arising out of the Victims and Prisoners Bill such as Greater Manchester victim services strategy; scrutinise the effectiveness of the victims code of practice; and develop joint commissioning requirements with local authorities, the health Integrated Care Partnership and GMCA. The steering group will also receive updates on digital developments, the victims' survey, and key commissions such as the multi-crime service and sexual abuse referral centre

Finance and resources

Police fund 2023/24

The Government grant for police in 2023/24 included an additional £174 million for Greater Manchester compared to 2022/23 to meet our share of the cost of an additional 20,000 officers recruited nationally via the Police Uplift Programme and pressures facing policing such as pay awards and non-pay inflation including energy costs.

The £174m includes £100m as announced last year towards the PUP programme and the impact of the 2022/23 police officer pay award of £140m (£74m net of £66m of benefit from the reduction in employer National Insurance contributions announced by the Chancellor in November). This is below the 3% minimum increase for local government and will require a re-prioritisation of budgets and efficiencies in addition to increased precept funding. The Spending Review in autumn 2021 permitted flexibility to increase the precept by up to £10 (for a Band D property) and £7.78 a year (for a Band B property) in each of the next three years to use according to local needs. However, it was decided that given the inflationary pressures facing forces, a £15 precept flexibility would be given for 2023/24 only.

Following the result of public consultation in Greater Manchester, a precept increase of £15 to the current band D property was agreed and an increase of £11.66 for band B.

This precept increase will provide an additional £15.3 million in 2023/24.

With this increase the Greater Manchester police and crime precept will remain one of the 10 lowest out of the 43 police and crime areas of England. It is important to note that even with a maximum £15 per year precept increase the 2023/24 police budget will still require significant efficiencies within GMP to manage inflationary pressures, whilst continuing to deliver improvements.

The nationally proposed £15 maximum increase will therefore raise significantly less funds for GM per head of population than in many other areas of the country.

The precept increase will support investment in:

- **Sustaining of the improvements already achieved over the past year.**
- **The establishment of dedicated Neighbourhood Crime Teams in each district to more effectively and proactively tackle the issues that the public told us are important to them in a GMP consultation last year, including burglary, robbery, and vehicle crime.**
- **The workforce level required to ensure that the significant improvements in 999 and 101 waiting times are maintained and further improved, particularly in respect of 101.**
- **Increased capacity and capability of crime scene investigators and digital investigators strengthening opportunities to detect neighbourhood crime and sex offending, including such offences against children in particular.**
- **Increased numbers of investigators who conduct initial investigations when a crime is first reported, to ensure more timely and effective investigations into offences that have a big impact on our communities like criminal damage and hate crime.**

Use of reserves

The provisional reserves at 31 March 2023 were £98.315m. This includes a general reserve of £15.374m which reflects a prudent level of uncommitted reserve based on the scale of the Police Fund. Earmarked reserves are also held by PCC and GMP which are set aside for specific purposes.

The position on GMP earmarked reserves at 31 March 2023 was £43.944m which is a decrease of £1.565m reflecting the net impact of transfers to and from reserves. As part of the improvement plan the mobilisation and implementation of projects across the Force will continue into 2023/24.

Transfers out of reserves relate to 2021/22 carry forwards and earmarked reserves set aside for purposes and events that arose in 2022/23.

The position on PCC earmarked reserves at 31 March 2023 was £38.997m which is a decrease of £5.962m reflecting the net impact of transfers to and from reserves, the most significant being a planned transfer from PCC reserves to support the GMP budget.

Police fund reserves	Closing balances 31-March 2022	2022/23 Actual use of reserves	Actual balance March 2023
	£000	£000	£000
General reserve - Police Fund	-15,395	21	-15,374
PCC earmarked reserves	-44,959	5,962	-38,997
GMP earmarked reserves	-45,509	1,565	-43,944
Total Police reserves	-105,863	7,548	-98,315

Fire and Rescue 2023/24

For GMFRS in 2023/24 the baseline funding from the Government grant increased by £2.4m from the 2022/23 position with a reduction in other governments grants of £1m. This represented an increase in total Government funding for the service of just over 3%. Whilst this is higher than in previous years, it falls some way short of the pay and non-pay inflation pressures faced by the service. The Home Office confirmed a Section 31 pension grant of £5.6m which continues into 2023/24 towards estimated costs for GMFRS of £6.1m.

For 2023/24 the Fire and Rescue precept was agreed at £76.20 per year (for a Band D property). This is a £5 per year increase in the precept, which is estimated to provide an additional £5.4m for the service, to ensure frontline fire cover can be maintained.

The Mayor has committed to continuing with at least 50 fire engines throughout 2023/24 with crewing at the current level of five firefighters at one pump stations and four firefighters on each engine at two pump stations.

The provisional reserves at 31 March 2023 were £45.8m. This includes a general reserve of £12.1m which reflects a prudent level of uncommitted reserve.

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