

Executive Summary

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

During the past 12 months we have seen:

- A significant reduction of 11.5% in recorded neighbourhood crime and a 25% decrease in recorded residential burglaries.
- More crimes being attended and improved solved rates for neighbourhood crimes.
- An increase in some recorded crime types such as theft from person which has increased by 16.9% and retail crime which has increased by 7.5%.
- The launch of neighbourhood policing, a new response model and the Bee In the Loop community messaging service.
- A continued focus on prevention and problem solving via the prevention hubs, neighbourhood crime teams, the continuation of Operation Avro, problem solving masterclasses and the expansion of Operation Vulcan into Piccadilly Gardens.
- Additional investment as part of the Safer Streets Fund programme – with investments in Manchester, Wigan, Stockport and Trafford in Round 4 and new bids approved for Bolton, Bury and TfGM for Round 5.
- The continued investment in roads policing including three new community speedwatch schemes and a focus on tackling crime and ASB on our transport system through Operation Avro.
- The launch of a new Vision Zero strategy to reduce road deaths and a decline in road fatalities, as well as continued investment and innovations in Safe Drive: Stay Alive
- The expansion of the Good Night Out Guide and launch and the continued support to supporting safety initiatives in the night-time economy.
- Reinvigoration of our retail crime work and planned relaunch of the #ShopKind campaign
- A focus on supporting Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) with a new bi-annual event chaired by the Deputy Mayor, more pooled funding and longer-term budgets and a stringer focus on CSP activity as part of the annual report.
- A continued focus on tackling Gender Based Violence with a sustained public engagement campaign #IsthisOK focussed on men and boys as well as additional £660,000 of Home Office funding to support those with No Recourse to Public Funds.
- GMP helping to lead nationally on tackling rape and serious sexual assault through Operation Soteria
- A new GMP Achieving Race Equality Report that shows a reduction in disproportionality in stop and search and innovations in community engagement but a decrease in recruiting Black officers to the police force.
- The publication of volume 3 of the Manchester Arena Inquiry and good progress against the recommendations.
- From November 2022 to October 2023 there were 10,631 hate crimes reported in Greater Manchester. This is 12% lower than between November 2021 to October 2022 (12,082).
- In June 2023, 88% of residents aged 16+ that feel very or fairly safe in their local area (Policing and Community Safety survey). This is a 1% reduction when comparing to the same period last year.

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	You asked us to	Progress update and highlights	How is this being achieved and measured?
1.	Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorded neighbourhood crime (personal robbery, domestic burglary, theft of vehicles and of the person) has reduced significantly this year by 11.5% (48,812 this year compared to 55,179 last year). The biggest decrease has been in residential burglary (25% decrease on last year) as well as vehicle offences (9.6% decrease on last year). However, the outlier is theft from person which has seen a significant increase of 16.9% this year. GMP are also solving more crimes. This year 5.1% of neighbourhood crime was solved, compared to 3.7% last year. Burglary solved rates have increased by 2.9%. GMP are attending 94% of burglaries compared to 70% 2 years ago. Overall arrests have increased by 29% since last year. There were 79,322 ASB incidents recorded by GMP in the 12 months to the end of September 2023. This was (12.9%) or 9,057 incidents of ASB more than the same period in the previous year. Prevention hubs have mapped the top victims, locations, and offenders of ASB as part of new Neighbourhood policing plan. Success of Operation Avro in localities with good examples of joint activity with community safety partners. Neighbourhood policing review complete, with the exception of City of Manchester, with a policy to protect neighbourhood policing teams from ‘abstractions’ to other duties. A new response model and Force Crime Management Unit launched in September 2023, providing capability to quality assess and assurance crime files for investigative opportunities. The new Bee in the Loop community messaging system has been launched and is being promoted by local policing teams and wider partners. GMP Prevention Hubs (focussed on neighbourhood problem solving with partners) are in place in localities. Wigan, Manchester, Stockport, and Trafford were all successful in their bids to the Home Office Safer Streets fund – round 4. This equates to £2.4 million of extra funding for the city region. The various bids are focussed on reducing 	<p>GMP Improvement Plan</p> <p>Operation Avro</p> <p>GMP Neighbourhood Policing Review</p> <p>GMP Prevention Hubs</p> <p>Safer Streets Fund bids</p> <p>Community Safety Partnerships</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Police recorded ASB incidents Neighbourhood crime</p>

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		<p>neighbourhood crime, anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls in public spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1m of funding for the Safer Streets Fund round 5 has been secured, with formal announcements and further information to be released soon. • The GM Policing and Community Safety survey has been re-commissioned and will continue to provide valuable insights at district and GM level, on feelings of safety over the next five years. The survey tells us: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How safe residents feel where they live and when they are out and about ○ How confident they are in GMP in an emergency and non-emergency ○ How satisfied they are with police contact ○ Neighbourhood Cohesion • Despite GMP improvements satisfaction levels have remained static 	
2.	Reduce road danger and make our transport system safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 64 road fatalities recorded in Greater Manchester in 2022, a reduction from 73 fatalities in 2021. • The road’s policing unit has completed its uplift to double in capacity with more resources and focus on tackling road danger. • Three new Community Speedwatch schemes have been launched and are active in Greater Manchester. Three more schemes moving through the application process with GMP. This follows funding from the Deputy Mayor to support the establishment and central coordination of the GM programme. • A new Road Danger Reduction Action Plan has been approved with focus on safe behaviours, safe speeds, safe streets, safe vehicles, and efficient post collision response. • This will support a new Vision Zero Strategy which seeks to achieve zero road deaths by 2040. The Strategy is being drafted ahead of launch in early 2024. • Continued partnership funding in support of the Safe Drive Stay Alive initiative – raising awareness of road dangers directly to thousands of GMs next generation of drivers. • Over the summer GMFRS launched a new virtual reality (VR) programme, enabling participants to experience what it can be like to be a driver who is distracted, or driving in poor conditions. The kit is mobile and can be used to show several different age-appropriate films. The Deputy Mayor assisted the launch of the kit at Farnworth Fire Station. 	<p>GMP Improvement Plan Road Danger Reduction Plan Safer Roads Partnership</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Road fatalities Transport incidents with injury</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2023, as part of Operation AVRO, GMP's Transport Unit alongside partners from Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) carried out multiple targeted deployments across all 10 districts as work continues to make the transport network safer for all users. Alongside the TravelSafe Partnership, GMP officers made 19 arrests and carried out 143 stop searches. Around 1,102 Metrolink fines were also issued for fare evasion. On the outskirts of the City Centre, two traffic operations took place on Regent Road and Bury New Road respectively, with officers recording 333 traffic offences over a two-day period, which included 152 speed offences and seven arrests. 	
3.	Make our streets and night-time economy safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Good Night Out Guide and campaign launched in student welcome week in September 2022 with advice on what to do and where to go if you need help on a night out (safe places, help points, travel advice, reporting, advice etc). • Around 8,000 z-card pocket guides were issued in 2022 and were distributed through student welcome packs at welcome fairs and via bar, pub, and club networks. • The Guide has been refreshed and updated for 2023 with a similar number of z-card pocket guides printed and distributed as part of student welcome week. Copies of the guide will also be distributed in the run up to Christmas. • Posters displayed on key transport network asserts along Oxford Road during student welcome week. • Positive feedback received from partners on the guide and young people. • Now working to adapt the guide content for other interested localities across Greater Manchester. • Good practice from localities includes Manchester's Women's Night-time Charter aimed at employers to increase safety for staff and patrons. • Consideration of proposals to introduce a Night-time Levy in Bolton to help tackle crime, antisocial behaviour and littering. • CCTV Information sharing agreement has been established between MCC and GMP and is being used as a blueprint with other local authorities. • Funding from the Deputy Mayor in support of the Village Angels scheme and Village Haven, to support people in the night-time economy. Havens are also being proposed other town centres across Greater Manchester. 	Gender Based Violence Board

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious violence' (a count of robbery and violence with injury offence) increased this year to 11.4% from 9.6% last year. • There were approximately 8300 attendances at Greater Manchester A&E departments due to assault in the year ending June 2023. This is 17% lower than the same period a year earlier. 	
4.	Improve our response to retail and business crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoplifting trends are showing an increase with shoplifting increasing by 7.5% in the last 12 months. • Recording to GMP shows in the latest 3-month period (June 23 – Sept 23), shoplifting crime is 10.1% higher than the previous year. The largest increase was seen for Tameside, with a 52.0% increase on the previous 3-months. GMP and retailers accept there is considerable differences between actual retail crime and reported crime for a range of reasons and the Retail Crime Delivery Group is working to ensure a consistency of reporting. • The GM Retail Crime Steering Group ensures there is a clear communication opportunity between GMCA, GMP, Retailers and representative groups. It is an opportunity to raise issues, share good practice, review the Retail Crime Delivery Plan and scrutinise delivery. • GMP have recognised the impact of retail crime on shop workers and retailers. They have a dedicated lead at Superintendent level and a named SPOC in each district. GMP have also improved how they assess crime through the adoption of the THRIVE risk assessment where every crime reported to GMP undergoes an assessment of harm, treat and vulnerability. • A new Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) has been developed to allow digital images of offences to be automatically transferred from retailers to GMP to assist with the speed and ability to follow all reasonable lines of inquiry. • GMP launched a new campaign to tackle Business Fraud. This is a free resource to smaller businesses and enterprises. • GMCA and GMP are members of the APCC retail crime group to ensure that PCC's/Mayors are aware of the impact or retail crime and best practice. • GMCA and GMP actively support the #ShopKind campaign, the Safer Business Action Week that was attended by the Deputy Mayor in October and USDAW Respect for Shopworkers Week in November. 	GM Retail Crime Steering Group

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5.	Invest in ways to bring communities together to improve community cohesion and deter crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.2 million delegated to CSPs each year for direct work with community and voluntary organisations using local processes (commitment agreed for the next three years). • This includes £10,000 provided to each district in support of bringing communities together to celebrate diversity and raise awareness of hate crime. £5,000 of this funding is ringfenced for community small grants processes, to raise awareness of hate and prejudice, develop programmes to counter hate speech and direct people to reporting and support mechanisms. • From November 2022 to October 2023 there were 10,631 hate crimes reported in Greater Manchester. This is 12% lower than between November 2021 to October 2022 (12,082). • GM support to bring in further funding from Safer Streets and Youth Deterrence funding including directly to the community, voluntary and social enterprise sector. • According to the Greater Manchester Policing and Community Safety Survey (total sample of 3,250 residents per quarter), 73% of residents feel that people of different backgrounds get along well in their local area. This has remained static since 2019. 	Community Safety Partnerships
6.	Make public spaces and venues safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 2 of the Manchester Arena Inquiry was released in November 2022 with recommendations on the emergency services response – since the Kerslake Report and considering evidence given at the Inquiry, GMP and GMFRS have been working on improvements to policy and practice. • An oversight group has been established to oversee the recommendations made from the MAI. • Draft protect duty (Protection of premises Bill) has been made public and is currently in pre-legislative consultation. Home affairs select committee have discussed it and given their recommendations for consideration. • A Protect Programme Manager has been recruited within the GM Resilience Unit (GMRU) and is responsible for driving the development and delivery of the Protect Duty across Greater Manchester. • As the Duty becomes law, a programme board with representatives from across Greater Manchester will be established which will mirror other strands of the Contest Strategy. 	Protect duty (via GMRU) Manchester Arena Inquiry Mayoral Oversight Group

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GMVRU is embedding resilience into everything it does and is now part of the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network. • Given the large role GMP undertakes around the policing of events they will be actively involved alongside other blue light services. • We are conscious that Publicly Accessible Locations will be linked to event venues - areas which fall outside of events and ownership but are spaces where the public may congregate and as a result could be exploited by someone wanting to cause harm. • National CTPHQ have launched a ProtectUK platform, ProtectUK App and ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) e-learning package. This is free and gives regular CT updates via text and email. National webinars are being held to raise visibility and local authorities are encouraged to adopt these products. 	
7.	Tackle inequalities within services	<p>GMP will shortly publish a new Achieving Race Equality report which details progress made against the Police Race Action Plan. Headlines are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are around 2.1 times more likely to be stopped and searched if you are Black in Greater Manchester, compared with the white population and 1.3 more likely if you are Asian. The national figures are 4.8 more likely if you are Black and 1.6 more likely if you are Asian. • Whilst GMP have made some progress in attracting Asian officers to the police force, representation of Black officers remains poor at around 1% of the workforce. 9.03% of GMPs overall workforce are from ethnic minority communities. This has shown little/no change since 2021/22. • GMP have put themselves forward as a national 'icebreaker' force to develop new models of community engagement through a 'Community Innovation Hub' model approach this has included setting up an effective Moss Sided Lived Experience Group. • Race still makes up 71% of all reported hate crime. Where the ethnicity is recorded, 36% of all hate crime victims were Asian, 30% were White, 24% Black and 10% mixed ethnicity. Where an ethnicity was recorded for both victim and offender, 25% of victims were targeted by an offender of the same ethnicity. <p>Some of the highlights from this year's Gender Based Violence strategy include: -</p>	<p>GMP Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy</p> <p>NPCC/APCC Police Action Plan</p> <p>GM Gender Based Violence Board</p> <p>Key scorecard metrics: Workforce diversity</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commissioning of a Lived Experience Group to improve services and responses to victims of GBV. • A sustained public engagement campaign #IsthisOK 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 film series has been watched over 850,000 times across the bespoke campaign social media channels and was featured at ParkLife 2023. • £660,000 additional funding from the Home Office to support minority and marginalised communities to further support those impacted by No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) • £156,000 additional MoJ funding to support an additional 3.5 IDVA/ISVA posts extending provision in by-and-for organisations, for stalking and harassment victims and for sex workers. • The Home Office Safeguarding Minister visited Greater Manchester on 4th July 2023, to coincide with the national launch of Operation Soteria. Though this work is ongoing, data from the 12 months to the end of June 2023 shows early signs of progress – with a 4.2% increase in recording and a 51% increase in summons/ charges – equating to approximately one in 16. 	
8.	Make our services sustainable and reduce our carbon footprint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMP has an Estates, Fleet, and Business Support Transformation Programme for 2023/24. This programme is a key contributor to GMP's promise to Deliver Outstanding Service to the Public, by investing in the fleet and estate to ensure it meets the evolving requirements of GMP. • The production of a new 10-year Estates strategy will set the parameters, principles, and governance to enable GMP to evolve the estate based on operational need and effective use of resources. • There will be a focus on greater agile working and collaboration with partners to ensure buildings and office space can be used more effectively and efficiently, and we will seek to minimise GMP's carbon footprint. • GMCA using the Social Value portal on all contracts to ensure added value to communities through the investment of public funds. Encouraging opportunities for local employment, work experience, apprenticeships. 	<p>Key scorecard metrics: Carbon reduction metrics are in development with GMP and GMFRS</p>