

## Written Answers to Questions Not Answered at the Plenary Meeting on 9 December 2014

### Meeting London's Current and Future Policing Needs

**Question No: 2014/4962**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

With ever reducing budgets can the Metropolitan Police Service meet current and future policing needs?

**Oral response**

### Violent Crime in London

**Question No: 2014/4963**

[Tony Arbour](#)

Whilst recorded crime continues to decrease, 'Violence with Injury' has seen a considerable increase this year. What measures are the Metropolitan Police taking to reduce violent crime?

**Oral response**

### Undercover Police Still Employed by the Metropolitan Police Service

**Question No: 2014/4964**

[Jenny Jones](#)

How can Londoners have confidence in the Metropolitan Police Service if police officers who had sexual relationships while working undercover are still employed and may not face any sanction for their behaviour?

**Oral response**

### Transparency in the Metropolitan Police Service

**Question No: 2014/4965**

[Caroline Pidgeon](#)

Should the Met Police promote trust through transparency by having a compulsory public register of interests including membership of organisations such as the freemasons?

**Oral response**

## **Cost of Water Cannon Training**

**Question No: 2014/4966**

[Caroline Pidgeon](#)

What is the forecast spend in 2014/15 on training officers to use the Water Cannon?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

*Officers are drafting a response which will be sent shortly.*

### **Written response from the Mayor received 05/01/2015**

The MPS already has Public Order trainers who were provided with Water Cannon training in Northern Ireland. They are therefore able to further train MPS officers in their use.

The MPS also has Public Order officers who have previously been trained to work with water cannon in order to provide a strategic reserve for Northern Ireland.

Further training in the use of Water Cannon is not yet underway but, should this tactic be authorised, will be incorporated into existing Public Order training and will be met within existing budgets.

## **Update on Cardiff Model progress**

**Question No: 2014/4967**

[Caroline Pidgeon](#)

Please publish a summary of the responses you have received from the Hospital Trusts you wrote to regarding the implementation of the Cardiff Model in London.

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

I am pleased to say that I have received positive and enthusiastic responses from hospital trusts regarding the implementation of the Cardiff Model in London. MOPAC is currently working with the trusts to formalise information sharing systems to ensure the development of a model for London that will ensure more effective partnership working and increased public safety. I will update you on this issue when further progress has been made.

As part of my wider health and victims work, I have also secured the provision of frontline youth worker services in the four major trauma centres in London to provide support to young victims of violent crime. A key element of that programme is to improve the reporting and sharing of data on violent crime and sexual exploitation which is an important development.

### **Update provided by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime on 15 December 2015**

Please see Appendix 3.

## **Policing of Bushy and Richmond Parks (1)**

**Question No: 2014/4968**

[Caroline Pidgeon](#)

The current model for policing Richmond and Bushy parks is not working. Shift patterns do not match visitor or incident patterns and there are no specific environmental policing considerations in the current model. Would you commission research into how this model could work better for the effective policing of the parks?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

MOPAC submitted a bid to the Home Office on 8 September 2014 for future funding for policing The Royal Parks. It has also instituted a programme of meetings involving MOPAC, the MPS and The Royal Parks to discuss the priorities for the funding available and to allow us to decide collectively, in as far as is possible, what other funding might be available. These discussions are also considering how best to involve key stakeholders including friends groups and park users.

## **Policing of Bushy and Richmond Parks (2)**

**Question No: 2014/4969**

[Caroline Pidgeon](#)

Environmental policing is not part of MPS culture and receives low priority in the MPS; wildlife crime as defined by the MPS does not cover the type of policing needed by Bushy and Richmond Parks. What additional training do the officers receive who are assigned to these parks?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

One of the responsibilities of officers who are assigned to police The Royal Parks is enforcement of The Royal Parks Regulations. Many of the regulations relate to the protection of wildlife and environmental policing. This enforcement responsibility is an important aspect of the Service Level Agreement that currently exists between the MPS and The Royal Parks.

All officers who join the Royal Parks Operational Command Unit receive instruction on enforcement of the regulations as part of their induction. A number of Royal Park's police officers also undertake locally the role of Wildlife Crime Liaison Officer. Environmental policing is a large part of the culture within Royal Parks police to ensure that the unique open spaces of London's Royal Parks remain a safe place to visit and enjoy.

## **Policing Costs**

**Question No: 2014/4970**

[John Biggs](#)

Please advise me of the cost per household in London to fund the Metropolitan Police

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The average notional cost in 2014/15 per household is £893. This is calculated by dividing the total MPS net budget by the number of households in London.

The MPS is funded from two main sources.

1. Central Government funding for both core policing and the national and international capital city functions; and
2. A proportion of the GLA precept levied through the 32 London Boroughs Council Tax. The 2014/15 Band D GLA precept for 2014/15 is £299 of which £214.52 relates to funding the MPS.

## **Confidence in London's Policing**

**Question No: 2014/4971**

[John Biggs](#)

What, by borough, is the current state of confidence in London's policing? From this, what trends and concerns do you note?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The Public Attitude Survey is the tool through which we capture public confidence across London and the levels for London's 32 boroughs are included in the attached Appendix 1. The overall MPS score for public confidence in local policing is currently at 67% (Q2 14-15), this shows no change from FY 2013/14, but reflects a 3 percentage point increase compared to FY 2012/13.

At Q2 14/15 the borough with the lowest confidence is Newham (50%). For the same quarter in the two previous financial years the lowest performing borough was Lewisham (52%) and Haringey (55%) respectively. More recently, Lewisham has seen the largest improvement with an 11 percentage point increase over the last 12 months (Q2 14-15 compared to Q2 13-14).

Richmond upon Thames has remained in the top 5 boroughs for confidence over the last 2 years, and is currently the highest performing borough at 84% (Q2 14-15). This represents a 13 percentage point increase from Q2 12-13.

The variation in confidence levels across the boroughs is a concern for MOPAC and the MPS and plans are in place to address this.

## **Tower Hamlets Borough Commander**

**Question No: 2014/4972**

[John Biggs](#)

I have raised repeatedly with the Tower Hamlets Borough Commander anxieties about assaults in the area but he appears unable to respond to requests for information about patterns, concerns or actions taken. What response should Assembly Members expect from Borough Commanders to requests for clarification? Why is Tower Hamlets unable to respond?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

I understand that the Borough Commander wrote to you on 1 December on this matter, explaining that Tower Hamlets has a range of initiatives to reduce assaults within the Borough, including Operation Equinox.

## **Fraud Complaints**

**Question No: 2014/4973**

[John Biggs](#)

How are complaints of fraud managed within the MPS?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Complaints of fraud are managed by two methods. The first is a referral from Action Fraud / National Fraud Intelligence Bureau which is disseminated to the MPS. The majority of these cases are allocated to the new Operation Falcon volume crime hubs for subsequent investigation.

The second method is "calls for service" which apply to urgent cases or where the victim is vulnerable. These are currently managed by local front line Police Officers and investigated by the appropriate local CID.

Any of these cases can, if appropriate, be referred to the Fraud squad for assessment and, where appropriate, for further investigation.

## **Waltham House Closure**

**Question No: 2014/4974**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Can I have an update on your plans for alternative policing provision in and around the area of Leytonstone now that you have closed Waltham House Police Station?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The majority of the functions from Waltham House will be delivered from Chingford Police Station, except for the Neighbourhood Policing Team, who will operate from Waltham Forest Custody.

In liaison with Waltham Forest council, the MPS has transferred the Contact Point at Waltham House to Leyton Library, which is one of a number of key libraries where the local authority is creating hubs for community engagement.

In addition, a further Contact Point has been opened at Tesco in Leytonstone near to Waltham House, operating Wednesday 6-8pm, Thursday 6-8pm and Saturday 2-4pm.

## **Arrest targets - 1**

**Question No: 2014/4975**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Do you think it's acceptable for police officers to have targets for the number of arrests and stop and searches they must do each month?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Please see my response to MQ 4976 / 2014.

## **Arrest targets - 2**

**Question No: 2014/4976**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Does the Metropolitan Police service use targets for the number of arrests and stop and search they must do - yes or no?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

There are no centrally imposed targets for the number of arrests and stop and search officers must do.

## **Neighbourhood Policing Teams - 1**

**Question No: 2014/4977**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Now that your new model for policing has bedded in, many of the Safer Neighbourhood Boards in my constituency are reporting a reduction in the visibility of Police Officers on the beat. Reasons being suggested are a reduction in overall policing numbers, high vacancy rates, and poor attrition. Without police visibility, public confidence in policing will only be so high and we will end up with less and less policing done through a mode of reciprocity and co-operation, which, to me, is key in having a functional police service in our city. Can you confirm current vacancy numbers by Officer-level across Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The MPS does not have high vacancy rates or poor attrition.

Islington and Waltham Forest are above target strength and do not have any vacancies, including those newly recruited officers completing training.

Hackney (as of 31 October 2014) has 13 vacancies. This is a small number that will reduce further as the recruitment drive continues.

These low vacancies reflect the success of the extensive recruitment campaign to reach approximately 32,000 officers at the end of the financial year.

There are currently over 1,500 officers in training with hundreds of officers being recruited each month.

## **Neighbourhood Policing Teams - 2**

**Question No: 2014/4978**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Can you detail what you feel the reasons are for the reduced visibility of Police Officers and what you will do to improve visibility of Officers across my constituency?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The Local Policing Model substantially increased the numbers of officers in neighbourhood roles and the MPS continues to recruit new officers.

More officers are now working during the evenings and weekends when demand for their services is highest. This can have an impact on visibility in the daytime.

As the MPS builds towards its full complement of approximately 32,000 officers, the remaining vacancies will be filled as new officers will complete their training and also become more visible in due course.

Borough Commanders continue to work with local stakeholders and staff to ensure that officers spend the maximum amount of time where they are needed.

## **Neighbourhood Policing Teams - 3**

**Question No: 2014/4979**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Can you tell me what you will do to improve attrition of Police Officers, given the high vacancy rates?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The MPS does not have high vacancy rates.

The MPS is on course to reach its target strength of around 32,000 officers in March 2015. At the end of October, officer strength was 31,340 full time equivalents (FTE); this represents a vacancy level of less than 2%. Posting decisions are always made on the basis of operational priorities and any vacancies are held in less critical roles.

The MPS continues its recruitment drive with hundreds of new officers due to begin training in the coming months.

In addition, MPS attrition remains low. The attrition rate of MPS officers is currently 5.8% which compares favourably with a public sector average of 11.4%.

The vast majority of officers leaving the MPS do so due to retirement. Only 1.5% of officers who left the service during 2013/14 left through resignation.



## **Neighbourhood Policing Teams - 4**

**Question No: 2014/4980**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

Can you tell me more about the shift-patterns of Officers going out on the beat, in terms of whether there are fixed shifts at the same times each day, or whether there is flexibility in the times and locations that Officers patrol?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The Local Policing Model is based on standardised shift patterns that were based on demand modelling. This determined what days and at what times officers were needed on the streets.

Emergency Response and Patrol Team (ERPT) and Safer Neighbourhoods (SN) officers all have an element of patrol within their duties. Shift patterns require fixed start and end times in order to ensure the overall operational efficiency of the organisation. However, there are circumstances when a shift can be changed at short notice due to operational demands.

Patrol locations are directed locally according to operational need. ERPT cover an entire borough whereas SN teams cover a specific neighbourhood within their borough. Dedicated Ward Officers, both PC and PCSO, cover an individual ward within a neighbourhood.

SN teams also work to a corporate shift pattern but their shifts vary in length. The current corporate shift pattern allows for a degree of flexibility based on local demand. However, all boroughs provide coverage between 07.00 and 23.00 Sunday to Wednesday and 07.00 to midnight (at least) Thursday to Saturday.

## **Reporting of Sex Crimes**

**Question No: 2014/4981**

[Jennette Arnold](#)

You will be as concerned as I am to hear reports that 1-in-4 sex crimes are not being recorded correctly. Is this true? Is this acceptable, if so? And what will you do to address it?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

It is highly unacceptable for any crime to be under recorded, particularly those of a sexual nature. A recent HMIC report concluded that nationally sexual offences have been under recorded at a rate of 26%. The majority of these offences are of Exposure and Outraging Public Decency.

Both MOPAC and the MPS are committed to ensuring crime is accurately recorded. The MPS has responded to the need to get crime recording right in a number of ways, including a review of all training delivered towards those in public contact and crime recording roles.

The overall trend in relation to crime is positive and is now falling at a faster rate in London than the rest of England and Wales. More importantly, the reduction in recorded crime is backed up by the crime survey of England and Wales according to the independent ONS.

criminal records

## **Criminal records**

### **Question No: 2014/4982**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

In what circumstances do you consider a criminal record should not be a bar to joining the police service; and in particular, would you consider or rule out an application from someone with a conviction or caution for drugs, violence or acquisitive crime offences?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The MPS are understandably very careful about who they recruit and operate a rigorous vetting procedure.

Offences that are minor and historic in nature should not necessarily prohibit an individual from becoming an officer. A balanced and nuanced approach is necessary and difficult cases are increasingly being subject to individual consideration.

## **crime reduction target**

### **Question No: 2014/4983**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

Do you agree that your top-down demand for a 20% reduction in crime has led to both under recording and downgrading of crime that is recorded in local Met crime statistics?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

No and there is no evidence to support this.

HMIC's 2014 inspection of the Met's Crime Data Integrity identified that senior managers encouraged staff to record crime accurately and that HMIC had not found evidence of performance pressures affecting the MPS approach to crime recording. There are no reduction targets for crimes that we know are significantly under reported including sexual offences, hate crime and domestic abuse.

The basket of MOPAC 7 crimes was carefully selected to avoid precisely this, so that all crime types contribute to the target and, for example, to downgrade robbery to theft from the person would be counterproductive.

There is however no room for complacency and work is taking place, led at Chief Officer level, to strengthen the MPS arrangements for crime recording and specifically to address areas for improvement identified through internal and external audit and inspection activity.

A comparator of MPS performance is the Crime Survey for England and Wales which draws on the experiences of the public rather than what is recorded by the police. This continues to show that crime is falling.

## **Hampstead Town contact point**

**Question No: 2014/4984**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

Are you satisfied with the arrangements for Hampstead Town contact point?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

This venue was where the public requested it to be after conducting a six week trial with three other venues. The Hampstead contact point remains one of a number of methods for the public to contact police, others include by phone, appointment and station offices open 24/7 at Kentish Town and during the day at Holborn. We continue to advertise the Hampstead contact point whilst also considering any other options for public contact.

## **Police advertising campaign**

**Question No: 2014/4985**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

How much has been spent on the recent advertising campaign including the posters on phone boxes about police performance in each borough?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

In total £562,884 was spent on the recent advertising campaign. This includes production costs and supporting marketing.

## **Street lighting**

**Question No: 2014/4986**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

What are the likely consequences for crime levels, if Barnet Council switch off the street lighting and leave parks unlocked at night?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

This is a matter for the local authority.

We understand that these proposals are subject to wider consultation.

The Borough Commander and borough team will do their best to ensure the safety of everyone in the Borough.

## **Gang crime in Barnet**

**Question No: 2014/4987**

[Andrew Dismore](#)

I am getting worrying reports of a dramatic increase in gang crime in Barnet, much of it drug related and violent or threatening. What are you doing about it?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

During September and October there have been 12 recorded gang incidents involving Grahame Park Estate gang members. The MPS has taken firm action here, including 7 arrests and a range of activity to identify and disrupt gang nominals. In addition high visibility patrols have been put in place to reassure residents.

Over the last 12 months Barnet has shown a reduction in gang related crime. This has included a 10.3% reduction in victims of serious youth violence (11 fewer victims); a 70% reduction in gun crime where a gun has been discharged (7 fewer incidents); and a 8.3% reduction in victims of knife injury aged under 25, excluding domestic violence (2 fewer victims).

In general, MPS Trident Command and others have been successful in reducing gang crime by 23% in the last Financial Year. The Strategic Ambitions outlined in the London Crime Reduction Board's Gang Strategy moves the focus from simply enforcement to prevention, diversion, and exit. Our aim is to reduce the harm to individuals and communities caused by gangs and serious youth violence in London.

## **Dangerous driving on A10**

**Question No: 2014/4989**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

I am still receiving numerous complaints from my constituents about dangerous driving on the A10 which involves racing and speeding. Not only is this dangerous, it is residents are also suffering from the noise. Further to the Mayor's response to MQ2014/4479 on dangerous driving on the A10, the Mayor stated that:

"In the interim however, TfL funded MPS officers are carrying out regular operations along this stretch of road. This is in addition to the eight speed cameras and six red light cameras placed along the A10. TfL and the MPS will continue to work closely together to ensure everything possible is being done to keep the A10 running as smoothly and safely as possible."

Can you outline what MPS resources have gone into tackling this issue and how long you envisage the interim period to last as this area will not be considered for average speed cameras until 2017 at the earliest?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

There are already eight speed cameras and six red light cameras placed along the A10 with further Average Speed Cameras under consideration, subject to suitability and funding. The area is frequently patrolled.

Enfield North Safer Neighbourhoods Team have created a tactical plan to tackle this issue and have gained assistance from the Roads Policing and Transport Command who have been patrolling the area every Sunday for the past ten weeks. They have issued 64 fixed penalty notices, 48 of these being for excess speed. They have seized 6 motor vehicles and made 4 arrests.

The Safer Neighbourhood team are also working with the retail parks (which are used as congregation points) to restrict access after hours. Work will continue until such time as the problem has been resolved.

## **Break-ins at local businesses**

**Question No: 2014/4990**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

In Enfield Town there has been a spate of break-ins at local businesses with laptops and products being stolen, causing considerable stress, loss of income, and an impact on how the area is portrayed to local businesses. What resources are you putting into preventing this issue?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

There were ten shop burglaries reported in Enfield Town in September and October. Following these incidents, the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) has visited every victim and provided advice and support regarding crime prevention and security measures. They have also brought the burglaries to the attention of the local authority CCTV team, and the CID team have overseen investigations. Two separate arrests have since been made.

In order to provide wider reassurance and support to the wider business community, the designated ward officer has visited every shop in Enfield Town to deliver crime prevention advice and literature.

The NPT has also worked in partnership with Enfield Business and Retail Association to alert businesses across Enfield to this issue and to reinforce wider crime prevention messages.

## **MPS commercial programme**

**Question No: 2014/4991**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

In a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to John Biggs as Chair of the Budget and Performance Committee dated 3rd November, it is stated that the MPS is looking to see if it can compete in the areas of "Corporate Real Estate, Transport Services, Business Support Services, Logistics, ICT Services, Command and Control, and Criminal Justice". Can you detail which specific functions under each of these headings are being considered?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

*Officers are drafting a response which will be sent shortly.*

### **Written response from the Mayor received 05/01/2015**

There is a planned programme of action for the Commercial Programme:

**Corporate Real Estate** - building/facilities management were competed in 2013/14 and a new operating model has been introduced from April 2014 to deal with day to day building maintenance and repair issues.

**Transport** - an outline business case was approved by DMPC in November.

**Command and Control** – this is technical support, a contract was awarded to Lockheed Martin in 2014

Decisions on other aspects of the commercial programme are anticipated shortly.

## **Engaging with young Londoners**

**Question No: 2014/4992**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

Given the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children reporting recently that children have a profound lack of trust in the police, what action are you taking to rectify this across London?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Please see my response to MQ 4927 / 2014.

## **Domestic Violence Services**

### **Question No: 2014/4993**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

In July 2014 you told the Assembly that "MOPAC is currently refreshing information on IDVA service provision across London and from there will build a commissioning and funding model ready for the autumn". Is this model ready and will you share it with us?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Please see DMPC decision 2014 143, which can be found at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/policing-crime/mopac-decisions/2014/december-2014>.

## **Recording Fraud**

### **Question No: 2014/4994**

[Joanne McCartney](#)

According to the MPS Crime data tables, in February 2013 the number of Fraud and Forgeries reported in London decreased dramatically. Was there a change to how the MPS now records Fraud and Forgery? Please give a detailed explanation as to the reason for this change.

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Since February 2013, all cases of fraud have been recorded centrally by Action Fraud, the national fraud reporting service which now sits within City of London Police. The recording of forgery offences remains with the MPS. The recent separation is the reason why the figures have fallen.

The Action Fraud remit and specific crimes can be found from the following links

<http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are>

<http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/homeoffice-fraud-counting-rules>

Part of the Action Fraud process is to amalgamate crimes in accordance with identified suspects or viable lines of enquiry, and these now come to the MPS as one package containing multiple allegations. These are recorded on one crime report for case management purposes. Therefore one crime report could contain an allegation of tens or hundreds of crimes.



## **Estate Receipts**

**Question No: 2014/4995**

[Murad Qureshi](#)

Will the greater receipts than expected you have received for Scotland Yard (£250m+) save the sale of other Police stations like Paddington Green - the fictional home of the legendary Dixon of Dock Green?

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

Paddington Green Police Station is not scheduled for disposal. Receipts from the disposal of New Scotland Yard will be used to invest in supporting front line policing including by providing police offices with more IT to do the job.

## **Islamophobic Hate Crime**

**Question No: 2014/4996**

[Murad Qureshi](#)

In light of the figures used by the BBC Regional News to show a 60 per cent plus raise in islamophobic hate crime in London, can you give me the latest figures you have for hate crime targeted at Muslim communities of London for 2013 and 2014, broken down by month & borough as well.

[the Mayor and Police Commissioner](#)

The figure quoted by the BBC is misleading. MPS data shows that there was a 7.85% increase in reported Islamophobic hate crime over the last 12 months, from 535 to 577 offences.

However, this is on top of a large increase in reports in 2013, particularly in the aftermath of the murder of Lee Rigby. The increase in Islamophobic hate crime compares to a 20.8% increase in all reported hate crime offences and an increase in anti-Semitic offences in the same period. The figures, broken down by month and borough as requested, are attached as Appendix 2.

Islamophobic and anti-Semitic offences differ from other hate crimes in that their incidence is more likely to be influenced by national and international events. The rise in reported Islamophobic hate crime in 2013 followed the Lee Rigby murder and there has been a similar effect on anti-Semitic offences in 2014 related to the conflict in Gaza.

Following the Lee Rigby murder, the London Muslim Community Forum and other key stakeholders have worked together with the MPS to put in place many measures to deter and prevent Islamophobic hate crime. These include local messages and engagement, media releases and an active police presence at key times, locations and occasions such as Ramadan and Eid.

It is important to note, as with all underreported crimes that some element of any increase may be driven by increased confidence to report.

## Alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour

### Question No: 2014/4997

[Valerie Shawcross](#)

Please name the ten worst wards in London for high levels of alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour?

The Boroughs with the highest level of this type of crime have a vibrant night time economy, which is important for the community but I want to see made safer. The Deputy Mayor is planning to visit the top 5 boroughs for this type of crime in order to engage with the Borough and other stakeholders on how we can address these issues.

#### Top 10 MPS Wards with the most Total Notifiable Offences with an Alcohol Feature Code

Recorded in the Past Rolling 12 months 1st Nov 2013 - 31st Oct 2014

Borough Name	Ward Name	Count of Offences
Westminster	St James's	1015
Westminster	West End	795
Croydon	Fairfield	262
Havering	Romford Town	259
Kingston upon Thames	Grove	250
Hounslow	Hounslow Central	246
Newham	Stratford and New Town	232
Camden	Camden Town with Primrose Hill	231
Hackney	Hoxton East and Shoreditch	218
Southwark	Cathedrals	175

#### Top 10 MPS Wards with the most Anti-Social Behaviour Calls

For Calls in the Past Rolling 12 months 1st Nov 2013 - 31st Oct 2014

Borough Name	Ward Name	Count of ASB Calls
Westminster	Strand and Whitehall	1657
Tower Hamlets	St Peter's	1513
Tower Hamlets	Bethnal Green	1474
Newham	Stratford and New Town	1275
Camden	Holborn and Covent Garden	1159
Tower Hamlets	Spitalfields and Banglatown	1121
Tower Hamlets	Whitechapel	1098

## **Dispersal Zone Orders**

**Question No: 2014/4998**

[Valerie Shawcross](#)

Please list the areas where there is a current and active Dispersal Zone in operation? Is this a technique the MPS continues to make use of in areas of high antisocial behaviour?

No pan-London list of all current Dispersal Zones (DZ) is available and the only way to ascertain the current position would be by asking for individual returns from boroughs.

All dispersal Zones have a maximum timeframe of 6 months. The new powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 came into effect on 20th October replaced DZ. Any DZs agreed prior to this will be in effect only until they expire, therefore all these DZs will expire after April 2015.

The new powers covering similar issues are the Public Spaces Protection Order and the Dispersal Power (not to be confused with the old Dispersal Zone Order). Details of how these may be used by the police and partners agencies are contained in the Home Office Guidance: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/352562/ASB\\_Guidance\\_v8\\_July2014\\_final\\_\\_2\\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final__2_.pdf).

## **Question Title; Noise Nuisance**

**Question No: 2014/4999**

[Valerie Shawcross](#)

If residents complain of continuing problems with on-street 'partying' and serious late night noise nuisance is affecting communities, including sometimes from parked cars, what steps will the MPS take in response to this?

All reports of noise are referred to the borough Environmental Health Officer. Any incidents identified as repeated behaviour, the subject of previous reports or causing harassment, alarm or distress to a victim, are passed to the local police. The incidents are treated as anti-social behaviour and, once officers have attended, assessed and addressed the situation, the issue may be passed to a neighbourhood team to deliver a longer-term problem-solving solution alongside other relevant agencies.

There are a number of new powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 that can be considered by the police and partner agencies when tackling noise nuisance in communities. Every case is different and the police, in liaison with their local partnerships, will need to carefully consider which tool is best applied in each case. Again, I would refer you to the Home Office Guidance on the new powers so that you can appraise yourself of the options:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/352562/ASB\\_Guidance\\_v8\\_July2014\\_final\\_\\_2\\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final__2_.pdf).

My advice, in the first instance, is that residents should contact their local authority and/or registered housing provider. If residents are subject to persistence nuisance, they should contact the police.

Residents who have previously reported ASB to either the police, the local council or a registered housing provider three times in the last six months may wish to apply for a Community Trigger. If the threshold is met, a case review is undertaken by the relevant agencies. MOPAC is monitoring use of the Community Trigger to identify any learning and best practice.

## **'Door to door Chugging'**

**Question No: 2014/5000**

[Valerie Shawcross](#)

What advice do the MPS give to elderly members of the public regarding the common practice of Charities sending staff door to door seeking to collect banking details and sign up donors? What steps would the MPS take if a Charity pressured a confused and vulnerable older person on their doorstep to become a lifelong donor? How would the public go about complaining about this practice?

The initial advice to elderly and vulnerable residents in respect of charity callers, is in line with that for 'bogus traders': "If you are not expecting anybody then do not open the door and do not seek to engage in conversation or dialogue". Charity callers are often highly persuasive and the experience can be potentially upsetting and stressful.

Prominently displayed signage for front doors is available, and can be dissuasive to a potential caller. If they see the sign then they will be less inclined to target the location.

'No Cold Calling Zones' are in operation across London. These are typically multi agency operations run by the residents, the council and the police. The primary purpose is to deter cold callers and to help protect the residents from being pressurised into making financial decisions on the spot. If these individuals or groups persist, then their details will be passed to the police and trading standards.

The MPS now records any police encounter with an individual where vulnerabilities are identified (using the Vulnerability Assessment Framework). The reason for concern can be highlighted, e.g. financial. The report will be researched to identify any history and any patterns or trends. If appropriate, relevant information is then shared with the local authority for intervention and/or signposting to relevant agencies. The MPS also has a comprehensive operational toolkit for the investigation of offences committed against adults with care and support needs.

If there is no clear criminal offence, but there may be evidence of bad practice or unfair pressure, then there may be a referral to the Charity Commission or to Trading Standards.

If members of the public wish to make a complaint about the activities of a charity sending staff door to door, I suggest that they first make a complaint to the Charity directly. Residents can also contact their local trading standards team, the Charity Commission or the Fundraising Standards Board. If there are concerns about fraud or harassment, residents can also contact their local Safer Neighbourhood Team.