

Police and Crime Committee – 25 October 2012

Transcript of Item 5: Question and Answer Session with the Interim Chief Executive, MOPAC, and Deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Then we move to our main business this morning, which is our question and answer session with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Deputy Commissioner and can I welcome you today? Can I start by welcoming the Deputy Commissioner, Craig Mackey, and Andrew Morley, the interim Chief Executive of MOPAC? I think, Andrew, you wanted to say a couple of things before we start.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): If I could, Chair, thank you. I just wanted to repeat the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's apology for not being able to join you today. I also just wanted to accept some responsibility. We as officers should have identified the clash much earlier than we did, so we have to take some accountability, so I apologise to the Committee for that. As you know, his preference would have been to do it on a different day but for reasons of notice and logistics that was not possible. But his apologies and my apologies added to that.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. That is very welcome. Is there any chance that we can raise the volume on the microphones in front of our guests?

Jennette Arnold (AM): We want to hear every word.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): If you just bear in mind that you may have to speak in the direction of your microphone that would be helpful.

I am going to start today and start by asking some questions about the MOPAC Challenge mechanism. The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has set up what he calls MOPAC Challenge, which is the principal mechanism through which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime hold the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and the top team to account. I believe earlier this month some performance targets were set as part of a 20-20-20 vision.

Perhaps I can start, Mr Morley, with you. Could you just very briefly tell us what that 20-20-20 vision is?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes. There is a sort of 20-20-20 challenge. In terms of the performance, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Mayor have made a challenge of the MPS which the Commissioner has accepted for a 20% reduction on seven neighbourhood crime types. They are violence with injury, robbery personal and business, burglary residential and non-residential, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle, theft from a person and criminal damage, otherwise known as vandalism.

Would it help if I just explain how we identified those seven crime types? Would that be helpful?

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That would. That is one of my first questions. Perhaps by saying that you identified it, can I ask what consultation you did? I know the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime said he wants targets that can speak to the public and I want to know how you judge what the public wanted.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): If I talk about how we identified the crime targets first, then we can talk around the level of consultation around some of that.

We specifically identified those offences which were victim-based offences rather than state-based, so those that are discovered by the police such as possession of offensive weapons and drug offences, because a decrease in those offences could be as a consequence of a reduction in police activity. We also excluded other serious offence types such as rape, serious sexual offences and hate crime, where we actually would not want to disincentivise increased reporting around some of that. Therefore, the seven neighbourhood crime types are victim-based, they are high volume, have a sizeable impact and are clearly understood.

In terms of consultation, it resonates strongly with those crimes that the public tell us that they care about from the work that we do in terms of the public attitudinal survey and the work that we do in talking to our neighbourhoods. We certainly consulted with the MPS on that and in coming to that decision, so there was not a specific consultation on these crime types, but it drew from consultation that happens routinely.

I should also say that these are our headline targets. This is not the totality of the monitoring arrangements that we have in place. MOPAC officers will be routinely monitoring performance data coming out from the MPS and if there is anything there that is of concern, that will be raised either through the MOPAC Challenge or with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's bilateral meeting with the Commissioner, as indeed where there is good performance to see whether or not there is anything that we can learn which we can apply more broadly. These are headline figures. It is intended to be something that the public can understand and grip but it is not the totality of our monitoring arrangements and our accountability arrangements. We do intend to make sure we are routinely monitoring and asking questions about other offences as and when they come to our attention for either good or negative reasons.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime previously has stated that he wanted the MOPAC website just to have those crime types on it. Given that you say that you are going to be monitoring others, how are you going to make sure that they are publicly available and publicly accessible to the public who are interested in them?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We are in the process of working through. I think we acknowledge in MOPAC that we have not done as much as we can around the transparency bit, so certainly the website is not as up-to-date as we would like. We are doing some significant work around that. Most of the data that we will be scrutinising is MPS data, so I may ask Craig Mackey [Deputy Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police] to talk about the extent to which that is publicly available because we would not want to replicate what is already out there. Our activity is around analysing MPS data and identifying as part of that whether there are any concerns. I

do know that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is concerned to ensure that there is transparency, so I am sure that we will be doing everything that we can as appropriate to make sure that data around performance is available. Craig, I do not know if you want to --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I was going to ask Craig: are you happy with the targets that have been set or is there anything that you as a police force have professionally thought that should be in there and that you should be delivering on?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you, Chair. Although there is a focus clearly from the Mayor's office about those types of crimes, it does not mean we are not monitoring all the crimes we deal with as we always have done. We have got both a daily dashboard and a weekly dashboard of what is going on across the MPS, so we know from those very low-volume high-impact crimes to very high-volume crimes. We know what is going on across the piece and we monitor those and we do provide weekly data to the Mayor's office in terms of those crime types.

A lot of the crime types as well now are uploaded onto the internet so you can go onto the National Crime Mapper and actually look at a lot of crimes in your area. There are new ones now with postcode search where you can put comparators between postcodes, so a lot of that data is out there and is available on the website.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): OK. Can I ask, one of the concerns I think is that you have said you have excluded crime types which if people report will go up. However, of course, the police force and ourselves are very used to asking questions and dealing with those sorts of crime types and we are aware that there may be very different factors as to why crime types may go up.

Do you think the public is not bright enough to understand that, too? Is that why we are not publicising or setting clear, publicly available targets in your headline targets?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, I certainly do not think that that is the case. I certainly would not accept that sort of challenge. These are headline targets. They are volume targets. They are impact targets. It is about where we can ask and where we can use diagnostics to identify how the police are performing in terms of making London safer. As I say, these are not exclusive targets. It does not mean that we will not be monitoring. So whereas there might not be targets, we will be routinely monitoring data across all police performance.

I can absolutely assure you that if there are issues of concern around that, we would absolutely be raising it with the Commissioner in the bilateral meetings that we have with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and within the MOPAC Challenge. Of course, the MOPAC Challenge is a public meeting. The bilateral meeting with the Commissioner is minuted and agenda'd, so there will be transparency and I can reassure you on that. I would also anticipate that this Committee would not allow us to get away without asking difficult questions if there were areas of concern.

I think, going back to the data point, the presumption is that data will be open and that we will share as much data as we possibly can. That is already the case and we will want to do so similarly to ensure that the public is informed, as are this group and other interested parties, to ask intelligent questions of us.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): OK. Jenny wanted to come in on this point.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I just think that is complete nonsense and you should put this data up immediately. I think that is a completely nonsensical reason for not putting data up. I am absolutely appalled at what you are telling us. We have gone through this year after year with the police and you are just trying to hide things if you are not putting it up.

Plus, on this so-called Challenge, the press and bloggers are finding incredibly difficult to find out about it. They were only told the day before. You are talking about holding this Challenge in public, but actually you make it quite difficult for people to get there.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Can I make two points on that? I have not said that we will not put the data on the site. The issue is about the seven crime types for which we have set specific targets. I have said that we are absolutely committed to openness and transparency around police performance to inform accountability, so the premise of the question is not right. We have not said that we are not putting data up. We are not of the intention of hiding information and data.

On the second point around the MOPAC Challenge piece, this is a developing entity. It is a new thing. We absolutely recognise that we want that to be as the primary source of challenge a meaningful meeting and that does require the public and the press and other people to have ample notice of it. I am confident that in time and with experience you will find that to be a very effective forum for the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to hold to account the MPS.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Somebody said it was as challenging as asking somebody if they wanted milk in their tea.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): We will monitor it.

Fiona Twycross (AM): I just wanted to come in and ask a question about domestic violence and why that was not covered. It would seem to fit the general criteria but obviously also fit the reservation about not including areas that if reporting increases the figures are likely to go up. Surely the MOPAC Challenge should be more ambitious and it should be about addressing issues that are of considerable concern.

The figures on domestic violence really are of huge concern and I cannot believe that they are not of huge concern to the general public and going back to Jo's point about actually giving the general public some credit in terms of being able to understand that if figures go up it might be because reporting is increasing. It is an area that we need reporting to increase in order to address it. I just wondered if you could comment a bit on why domestic violence was not included as one of the seven key indicator crimes, given its significant and given its seriousness.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): OK. The first thing I will say is that the Mayor absolutely recognises the significance around domestic violence and violence against women and has made some very ambitious commitments around that within the manifesto. For example, continuing the provision for Rape Crisis and the commitment to develop a panel

under the Domestic Violence Service. There are some very firm, tangible commitments around some of that and we have had a successful violence against women strategy, as I am sure you are aware.

In terms of why it was not included in this, I think it is the case that we did not want to put cases in that disincentivised reporting. Also, domestic violence is not in itself a category. So we will be monitoring it. I think the point that I wish to make -- I want to make the distinction between headline targets and the assumption or the premise that that means that we will not be monitoring or holding to account the MPS for performance against other metrics, which we absolutely will. The Mayor's commitments around violence against women I think do support a very strong priority to be afforded to that area. As part of the London Crime Reduction Board, which the Mayor chairs and the Deputy Commissioner chairs the Delivery Group, it is one of the priorities of that group.

There is a lot of activity and as part of that there will be routine monitoring of performance which will be publicly available and which this Committee will see. It is entirely appropriate at some stage that that might be something and in fact, I think it has been agreed that that will be a theme of one of the MOPAC Challenges. In the MOPAC Challenge there is a general performance piece but there will also be thematic sessions where we can have a discussion about our record and I am fairly confident, if I recall, that violence against women is one of those that will be discussed, and rape.

Fiona Twycross (AM): So that will be covered at one of the MOPAC Challenges. I am concerned that, going back to the truism that what gets measured gets done, if it is not on the list of the key priorities, then there is always obviously a danger that it would not get covered and it would not get addressed properly.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I recognise the concern. Again, I go back to what I said earlier. We as MOPAC officers are routinely monitoring all MPS data. Within that, we are identifying good practice and bad practice to inform the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's interventions both at bilateral meetings with the Commissioner but also the agenda for the MOPAC Challenge. The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is absolutely committed to ensuring that we hold the police to account across a range of activities. This is a mechanism to ensure that we have headline targets which resonate with the public and that the public can understand. There may be a discussion around that. I have explained the rationale for identifying the offences that we have done. However, it does not mean that we are only measuring or only monitoring those targets. We are monitoring all MPS data.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): If it may help, we are reporting weekly on domestic violence, domestic violence incident numbers, domestic violence sanction detection rates and domestic violence arrest rates, so those are being reported and monitored weekly. They are part of the suite of key performance indicators that the MPS monitors on a weekly basis.

In relation to rape, as I think some of the debates we have had before around this table, the one we are monitoring is rape sanction detection rates.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can I ask just on that? In your answer to Fiona [Twycross], you said that one of the reasons you did not want to put these types of crimes up was because you thought it might

disincentivise people from reporting. I do not get the link between making something a target and it disincentivising someone from reporting.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): You are quite right to challenge that because that is clumsy language. A rise in reporting is not necessarily a bad thing because it talks to confidence and that is what we do not want to be confusing in the performance metrics. It absolutely is the case and the 20% challenge is supposed to be a very broad one, which is why we tried to identify those offences where we think that is both achievable and does not fall into any other complex issues. It is more about making sure that we do not misunderstand that an increase in reporting in cases of domestic violence or rape may very well be a good thing. It is not a good thing, but it may be a positive commentary on the confidence in the ability of the police service to respond to that and the criminal justice service, and we would not want to get those two confused.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I just want to pick up on something you said. These targets were picked because they were very achievable. That seems to be the wrong way to pick targets.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Sorry. No, you are quite right. This is a new experience for me. They are challenging but we do have a level of confidence that they are attainable. Obviously we would not set targets that are not attainable at all and they are huge challenging targets, which is what I think the Commissioner said when he agreed to accept the challenge.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): A 20% reduction and the challenging one in the 20-20-20 -- we spoke in another place about reducing 20% of costs. The challenging one is the 20% uplift in public confidence. That is the challenging one.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Len?

Len Duvall (AM): Chair, I wanted to pick up something you said? Shall I continue with my questions as well or should I take those later? I will come back later, then, and let you continue this vein. It is just in reference to the bilateral meetings. I wanted to pick that point up.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Yes. You have set these targets. A number of them are in the theft/dishonesty bracket. Can I ask what that will mean for resource allocation across the piece? We often hear particularly from different boroughs and from the police that when targets come down centrally you go after one crime type and then others suffer. Can I ask Craig Mackey what these targets could mean for resource allocation to deal with issues that Fiona [Twycross] and we would raise, perhaps domestic violence? Would it mean that other areas would not get the same priority?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, and I think that is why it is important to see them in the light of the key performance indicator set we work with at the moment. I am happy to go through them all if you want that are reported weekly. There is a violence portfolio of performance indicators that covers violence with injury, sanction detection rates, common assaults, harassment, harassment detection rates, threats, conspiracy. In violence, rape, people killed and seriously injured on the road, the property portfolio of which a number of these fall in, we cover virtually every conceivable crime type and monitor them continually. That is where the thrust is and people do

move resources around as the crime types change. We would expect that. A huge drive that has been going on in Territorial Policing is around domestic violence and it is around the work around the things that we know really do make a difference, like monitoring the arrest rate of domestic violence incidents, so a positive assertion that arrests will be made when they are there. That will not change, regardless of that target set.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Will that data all be made public or publicly available?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): That data does get made public. It gets made public in its crudest sense every time the national crime figures are published, but that is a long point afterwards. That data certainly comes across to MOPAC and can be put in the public domain.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Is that going on the London Datastore?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I would need to check. I would assume that it is but I would need to check that so I can write to the Committee setting out exactly what is going on the Datastore.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can I ask, Deputy Commissioner, about this -- The MPS produces a weekly performance scorecard that goes to partners, in particular local authorities and those crime and disorder partnerships.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I have had concern expressed from mine that I believe from last month serious youth violence was knocked off that weekly scorecard and it was raised at my local crime and disorder partnership as an area of very great concern. Nineteen London boroughs are Home Office ending gangs and youth violence priority areas and local boroughs rely on that serious youth violence weekly data to actually understand how well they are performing and what it looks like on their borough. The issue about serious youth violence is it measures the victims, not the perpetrators.

The MPS has told boroughs that they are no longer going to be providing that data and instead they are going to have measures that relate to gang nominals in custody and subject to judicial restrictions only. They have been told that there is other data on the MPS intranet but of course partners do not have access to that. Could you look at that? My boroughs are certainly very concerned that serious youth violence is now not coming on a weekly basis.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am more than happy to, Chair. To reassure you, it comes weekly, so I am surprised at that. Serious youth violence as of the last full week I have, 14 October, is down 33% across London. I am surprised we are not reporting that because some of that work is obviously down to the work that the boroughs are doing, so I am more than happy to take that away as an action, Chair.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That would be great. I have an email trail here from the MPS saying,

"We are moving to provision of a direct performance dashboard that replaces the older reports. I appreciate your reliance on this report. Unfortunately we are unable to offer a reporting service for partners on this."

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): All right. I will find out for you, Chair.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Deputy Commissioner, you mentioned about sanction detections. Previously, a MOPAC Challenge included a commitment to improving sanction detection rates from two in ten to at least three in ten. It covered all crime, not just the seven that we are now talking about in your 20-20-20 vision. Why have those sanction detection targets been removed?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not think they have, have they? They may not feature as part of the -- certainly from a MOPAC perspective it is certainly still an ambition on sanctions detections because there was some discussion around 50% being an ambitious target and all that. It certainly is still the case that we are expecting a sanction detection improvement from two out of ten to three out of ten. That has not changed. I have not seen anything that suggests that has changed at all.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Fine. I do not believe it has been clear in what you have put out so far about this new vision, so perhaps that could be spelled out a bit clearer.

The other thing that previously the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) was particularly concerned about and did some work on actually was drug crime. I know a lot of those indicators, particularly about dishonesty, theft and robbery, we would say are driven by drug crime yet drug crime does not appear as one of the 20-20-20 indicators. Why is that?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Again, there is something around, as you quite rightly say, drugs drive a number of offences. There is some judgement that has to be applied about what offences you identify in terms of the 20-20-20 vision. But I go back to my earlier point. One should not assume from that that we are not routinely monitoring the data that the MPS are producing, that we are not routinely asking questions, that we are not routinely challenging that data, as indeed will others. So it is not an exclusive arrangement. Just because it does not appear as part of that does not mean that we do not have sophisticated arrangements for monitoring and we are not asking the right questions at the right time. It does feature as part of the suite of measures that the MPS are providing us on a weekly basis and will be publicly available.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): And there is operational activity. I think most recently many Members will have seen the work around Operation Hawk and others and its focus against drugs. There are a number of key drivers for crime of which drugs is one. Sadly, probably in my police service, I cannot see that changing. We will still keep that focus on drugs and drugs work.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Deputy Commissioner, do you have your own internal targets as well?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The drugs ones, I cannot find them on the list at the moment --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): In general, do you have your own internal targets?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): We have our own in general, yes. We have our own internal targets as well. We have a performance regime that looks at the internal targets as well from a whole range of parts of the organisation, from some of the very specialist areas, trying to come up with some ideas about outputs and targets for those, through to the high-volume work that goes on in boroughs on a daily basis. There is a system of monitoring that all the way through.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Is that publicly available?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The targets are available, yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It would be useful, I think, if we could have them after this meeting. That would be good. Before I bring Jenny in, the Mayor made a manifesto commitment to keeping around 32,000 police officers on the street and a previous MOPAC report referred to the MOPAC Challenge of increasing that visible police presence. However, it is clear that that is going to be extremely challenging. We had this week the Mayor's budget guidance saying he is willing to consider options that do not meet that 32,000 commitment and also we know that you are around 1,000 police community support officers (PCSO) down, particularly in Safer Neighbourhood Teams. I believe you are not yet sure how many more you can or will recruit because of budget and also your policing model. How will those commitments to frontline policing be measured?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): At the end of the day, they will be measured in numbers and with some of the data we discussed earlier on in the week. For Members that were not there, around things like the operational policing model and the police objective analysis which Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) report on annually in terms of the work around it, which looks at the proportion of officers and staff in different segments and roles across the organisation. We are very clear. The budget guidance has come out this week in terms of where we have to aim for around it.

In terms of current officer numbers and officer strength at the moment, we always knew and we always planned that they were going to fall during the Olympics. We stopped training and recruiting over the Olympic period and we are only just restarting it. For all the obvious reasons that I think many Members know, we were not going to be running training and recruitment processes while we were running one of the busiest events the capital had ever seen, so we always knew numbers were going to fall like that. There are recruits coming in now that will grow the numbers again in terms of officers. But a very clear steer with the budget guidance to model for 32,000 officers.

Yes, of course it is going to be a challenge. As we discussed the other day, nothing around the budget is easy or straightforward when you have to take in the region of £500 million out of a £3.6 billion organisation. We will end up with a series of choices collectively. That is the budget modelling we are

doing, but for obvious reasons with the accountability mechanism it goes to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's office first.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): You said you would measure frontline policing by officer numbers, but of course frontline policing is also those PCSOs.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, absolutely.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It is others as well. I am going to come to Mr Morley if I can. Previously, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has said he is going to come up with a definition of what you mean by frontline policing. Are you anywhere near that?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I am not aware of that being written down. The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is very clear in talking in terms of frontline police officers and those people that have contact with the public. That is the sort of language he uses. We have yet to absolutely define that, but we are on it. Hopefully we will be able to do that as part of the discussion around the local operational policing model.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is work that is still ongoing?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Jenny?

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Thank you. Mr Mackey, I am quite concerned about the changes that are going to happen. It is going to be very tough for officers and for staff.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): At the moment, the MPS has a good flexible working policy. I am just wondering if that is the sort of thing that is going to come under threat because I have been told that the MPS had had a relationship with the Joint Prosecution Service (JPS) and there were staff who would go in early in the morning and prepare papers and that sort of thing. They were asked if they would attend from 6.30am in the morning on a voluntary basis and get a lump sum because of the change in their terms and conditions. They are now being told there is going to be a compulsory 7.00am start. Many of these staff are women with childcare commitments. It seems to me that somehow things are hardening up at the MPS and perhaps you are ditching some of your policies. Do you know about this particular case?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I know a little bit but probably not enough to give you the detail you want. I am aware that the union is in consultation in terms of the particular issues around the JPS and start times. I am aware, absolutely. I am aware of the feedback that people say, "Actually, things will get tighter and will get tougher". Of course I am aware of that feedback. I see and meet staff across the organisation on a daily basis who do worry about those sorts of things.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): It is in your remit, is it, as Deputy Commissioner?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Sorry, no, JPS is within Territorial Policing, criminal justice. In the nicest way, most of it is within my remit because it is involving the change and reshaping of the organisation. However, I think lying behind the JPS one as well, there was not an option to do nothing. That is not just budgetary, The Crown Prosecution Service changed dramatically in terms of the way they combined across London, so we had to make some --

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Of course. However, this is more about how the MPS treats its staff and its officers, particularly staff because there are so many more women. We already know that the Government cuts have hit women hardest in Britain and now here is the MPS as well bearing down on the women that they employ.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am more than happy to take that one away and come back to you with some of the detail that lies behind it.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I would be very grateful if you could. I would be very grateful because it is difficult getting answers from the MPS at the moment. It would be so nice to hear directly from you.

Could I ask you as well about the public satisfaction measure that you are using? It is very good. The aim is fantastic because the aim that you have would actually put you first amongst all the police forces. However, I am curious about why you chose the British Crime Survey (BCS) as the measure.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I think this is to MOPAC.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Right, sorry. This is the 20-20-20 piece. I think in terms of the BCS measure, as I understand it - you are now testing my grasp for detail - but as I understand it, part of that is because it is nationally comparable, so we can compare it nationally with other forces. We are also routinely looking at the public attitudinal survey data that the MPS captures which gives us a far better sense. There are limitations with the BCS because it is a very small sample, but it is entirely true that we supplement that with -- I cannot remember what the sample is but the public attitudinal survey is fairly significant, is it not?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It is, yes.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): There is a sort of correlation between the questions that we ask in both. In terms of the target you are right about the BCS, but in terms of the questions we would be asking about satisfaction both across the MPS and also locally in terms of boroughs, we would be looking very hard at the public attitudinal survey as well. It goes to my earlier point about us not just focusing on the seven crime types identified as part of the targets in the 20-20-20 vision piece.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I think we will all be very impressed if you can achieve it.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): That is the ambition.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): As I said, and we were very open when the challenge was set to us, I think that is the most challenging part of the target. I know we have had the debate in the round sometimes. Some of the drivers for public confidence I think we understand. Some of the others I do not think the police service yet understands fully.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Can I just check? Victim satisfaction is something that the Commissioner said when he came was an integral part of what he wanted to improve. The MPS is currently bottom of all the police forces in victim satisfaction. Is that something that you thought of putting in as one of the main targets in the 20-20-20 vision? That would seem to be the one that really needs to get off the floor.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): On one level it does not fit with the 20-20-20 in terms of a 20% reduction, although victim satisfaction is absolutely considered by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime as a key priority. Again, one of the scheduled events around the MOPAC challenge is a specific thematic one on victim satisfaction, so there is an opportunity to look at the data, to understand what activity the MPS has in place in terms of improving victim satisfaction. But we also have an opportunity with the devolution of the victim support funding which comes in 2014/2015 according to current plans and the opportunity to look again about the holistic wraparound victim support service that we provide to make sure that those victims of crime are given the best possible service from the very beginning when they are a victim to the support they may need after that. We are thinking about what opportunities that provides for us and it is certainly a key priority for us.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is helpful. As you are probably aware, this Committee has picked victim satisfaction and support as its first major scrutiny topic that we are going to make recommendations on. We are in the process of finalising our report but, Mr Mackey, we need access to the police officer that deals with victim satisfaction in the MPS so we can check some of the figures and facts we have are correct. Can we liaise directly with the MPS and get that information?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): By all means.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you very much.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): If it helps, we do monitor and report the victim satisfaction figures. Obviously they are only quarterly but they are in there every week and we break them down for different minority groups as well. One of the challenges is the satisfaction gap has not moved.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Wonderful. It is that sort of information that we need because we would not want to produce a report that did not have the correct information in it.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I would be more than happy, Chair, if you want one of your Committee Members to liaise directly with me. We will find who you need.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Lovely. Can that be a commitment going forward for our work we are doing on this Committee?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): By all means.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I think we would want to be sighted on it.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): We would copy you into it. That would be good, yes.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We would want to be sighted on it and I think we would want to ensure that we do not blur the lines of accountability. But we would want to be as helpful as we can in making sure you have access to data. Certainly on the victim scrutiny, one of the questions that I would certainly ask is when you were expecting to report. We are very much looking forward to that because we are in a situation where we have opportunities around victim satisfaction because it will be a very helpful contribution to the debate.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): We hope it will be. I think we are in a bit of a strange situation where as a normal Assembly Member I could write directly to the police and get the information but perhaps as a Committee Member I find it more difficult. So if I can liaise directly that will be very helpful.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It is a new arrangement for all of us.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I would also say that it is not the intention of MOPAC to be unhelpful in terms of providing you access to the information or data intelligence that you need.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): But you have been.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): If that is the case, then I apologise, but that is not the intention. We would want to ensure that you have access to appropriate data and the appropriate way to allow you to exercise and discharge your functions. There may be a further conversation. I know the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has written to you recently with some suggestions on how we can make this relationship work, recognising it is a new settlement, and I think we should put that into the mix as part of that.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Tony?

Tony Arbour (AM): Yes. I would like to ask you, Mr Morley, what the word "sighted" means. Does it mean oversighted?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Sorry, in what context? Remind me.

Tony Arbour (AM): You have just said that you wanted to be sighted on matters which we approach the Deputy Commissioner on directly. So does that mean you want oversight of that?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I think we need to understand that we are in a new accountability settlement and we are still feeling our way. I think what I would not want to do is to undermine or to blur the lines of accountability that the legislation sets out. But within that, there is some work we need to do to make sure we understand that. So, whether it is sighted or oversighted, I think it is a courtesy point which is about making sure that we understand what you are asking and to ensure that both the MPS are protected from too many demands on them but also you are given the information you want that is helpful in a way that is helpful.

Tony Arbour (AM): I think we understand that and I think most of us here are grown up enough to know that we would not overload the police on that. By and large, our record is OK. There are some recidivists here but I think that can be knocked out of them.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Me.

Tony Arbour (AM): Yes, I did mean you. You said that you are feeling your way. Of course, we are feeling our way, too. Just as you want to draw lines in the sand, and I guess you would say that the lines in the sand are being drawn by the legislation, we do say that there ought to be a modus vivendi whereby we can come to some sort of agreement as to the things that we ought to be able to go directly to the MPS on without going via the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. Are you drawing up some kind of protocol?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I have two points. I would not use the language "lines in the sand". I think our interest in this is to make sure that these new arrangements work. I think that we all have a shared purpose, which is about making sure that London and Londoners are safe. This is a new settlement. Legislation is not necessarily always as helpful as it might be in terms of the actual practical operation of that. I know that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's approach to this is that he wants to engage in a discussion and a dialogue with you to come to an arrangement that works. There has been an exchange of letters around that. I know there is a disagreement around an element of legislation. We have a view supported by legal advice that we have received about the remit of this Committee. However within that, we certainly do not want to be unhelpful. We certainly do not want to undermine your ability to hold MOPAC to account in the appropriate way. I think it is an ongoing discussion. That is certainly the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's approach to it. He wants it to work and he wants to do that collectively as part of discussions.

The other thing I would say is that it is important that we do get this right, not just for the benefit of Londoners but recognising we are setting something of a national precedent here, so other forces, other police and crime agencies will be looking very hard at the London experience to see how we go. Therefore, in feeling our way, we can get some experience which is helpful to others.

Tony Arbour (AM): Would it be right to say that a protocol is required?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I can see some merits in that, yes, but I think it has to be a protocol that we have discussed and we have developed together rather than something that is imposed by one side or the other.

Tony Arbour (AM): Of course.

Len Duvall (AM): So how do you square that? I am a Member of this Committee but I am also an elected representative of the constituency of Greenwich and Lewisham. Why are you going to treat me differently than a London Member of Parliament (MP) or any other MP that might want to write to the MPS or any councillor? If I write in my capacity as a London Assembly Member, not a Member of this Committee asking for information, why am I to be treated differently? Should I not then - I do not know whether I do have recourse - complain to the Parliamentary Ombudsman that you are fettering my discretion in representing my constituents? How do you square this and what are you thinking of that in terms of some of the issues?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I can absolutely understand how that would feel very difficult to square. I think my line is that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has jointly entered into a dialogue in terms of how we can work through some of these very difficult issues. I think it would be as an officer because I think it is right that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime leads these conversations.

What I can say is the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is committed to enter into a dialogue to see how we can make the new arrangements work. He is very conscious of some of those conflicts and I think it is something that we would want to work together to resolve. But I do not think at this point I can answer your question.

Len Duvall (AM): OK. You have answered it from a MOPAC point of view. I am now going to ask the MPS, which is an entity in itself. Are you going to treat me differently than other elected representatives in requesting information, yes or no?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not think it is as simple as yes or no.

Len Duvall (AM): Why is that?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Of course, we will not treat you differently in ways that we answer. But we are finding our way in a new relationship. The legislation from our end --

Len Duvall (AM): Sorry. I am writing to you as a London Assembly Member and as a representative of a constituency, Greenwich and Lewisham. Will I be treated differently to MPs or to other councillors in terms of requests for information that I put to you in terms of doing my constituency business?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, you should not be. However, it feels sometimes like we are the bit in the middle on this one. Whatever we all think personally, there is a new relationship that happened on 16 January 2012 [with the introduction of the

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011] that puts the accountability mechanisms for the MPS through the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime's office. It then puts --

Jennette Arnold (AM): Nobody is querying that.

Len Duvall (AM): No one is querying that. I am not challenging that. I am challenging about information and the appropriateness. If you want to put systems in at MOPAC, that is different. However, that system does not allow the Deputy Mayor of MOPAC to withhold information from me as an elected representative, not as a Member of this Committee but as an elected representative. Now, you mentioned legal advice. Will you share that legal advice with us? We would be very interested to see it because we do not agree with you and that is the difference. MOPAC is putting the police in an impossible situation and you are frustrating me in carrying out my duties and the other Members around this table.

I think we need to be reassured and we are quite clear. We have had a reassurance from the Mayor that this is not going to be the case. If we are still arguing about these points and you are still here and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is not here, this is a sorry day. I am not going to be frustrating in representing.

Now, we have heard from the police that they are not going to discriminate on this. The sooner this is cleared up the better because we are not being treated like other elected representatives. People need to get it into their head that London is slightly different. Yes, the legislation is not helpful. There is a protocol. It was agreed, somewhat reluctantly on the part of some civil servants. Sorry, tough luck. Get real on the reality here in London. I am elected by people. I am not an independent. I am not placed on by a third party. I arrive at this position as an Assembly Member first and foremost, not as a Member of this Committee.

All: Hear, hear.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I absolutely get a sense of the frustration. All I can say is I know the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has written very recently to the Chair of this Committee to talk about how we can make sure that this new arrangement might work in a way that does not disadvantage you. As an officer, I am very mindful of the democratic mandate and the power which you bring to this table and I think it is about making that arrangement work. It would be inappropriate for me as an officer because I think that is a political discussion between the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and this Committee in terms of how that arrangement might work. Our job is to make sure that we service that appropriately.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): We have to take this further because so far the dialogue has not been constructive. Jennette?

Jennette Arnold (AM): Can I just come in there? I just so understand Len's frustration and everybody's frustration. Andrew [Morley], our case is not with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. It is with the Mayor of London because it is the Mayor of London who is MOPAC. I really believe that we have had enough of this sparring and we should actually be bringing the Mayor in public to ask him what his understanding of our role as scrutineers and what his role is and how he sees that role being played

out. I hear different things. I hear the Mayor is quite clear about our role because he has been doing it for some years now. It seems to me the problem lies with his appointment as a deputy. I think we have to get to the bottom of this. It is not for us to be venting on you but you are quite right. You are a paid official. This is a political matter and it must be sorted out soon. You talk about us being the example to the rest of the country. I have to say the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has showed himself to be a poor example to date, a very poor example.

Can I just go back to my question? I just want to say, Craig [Mackey], you talked about victim satisfaction and this ongoing issue about the gap. I just want to be assured that where you were when you were relating to the former authority, it felt there that there was a total commitment to be looking specifically at this gap, to actually not take a broad approach and say this is a general thing. There is an endemic feature about this lack of satisfaction. It lies within young people. It lies within black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. I think if the work were to be done properly, it would lie with women as well.

I just want your assurance that you are still staying with a targeted approach and also your commitment that was stated before that the police cannot do this by themselves. So you are not going to withdraw with any pressure with anybody else who do not understand some of the time what they are talking about and that this can only be solved with working with Londoners in various bodies and also those organisations like the boroughs, like the third sector. Is that where the MPS in London is on this matter?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I fully agree with your point.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Thank you.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Could I just add to that with two points? Going back to the earlier comment about the sort of new arrangement and the very kind recognition that I am here as an officer, the one thing I can say from personal experience and my engagement with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is that there is a commitment to come to an arrangement by consensus. I am absolutely convinced of that by the conversations that I have had with him and the engagement.

Now, your perception may be different but my view and my experience suggests that he wants to make sure this new arrangement works and to come to some sort of arrangement that is consistent with the legislation but allows all different parts of the system to do what they need to do for the benefit of London.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Sorry, Chair. Can I just ask? An example of consensus. Is it by consensus that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime gate-crashed this meeting when we last met, sat there twiddling his fingers and playing with his BlackBerry and shifting papers about? What sort of consensus is that? He sat there for over two-and-a-half hours. What was that consensus? Can I gate-crash into his meetings and do likewise?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): All I am trying to give a sense of is that certainly the discussions I have had with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime are that he wants to engage constructively with this Committee to come to an arrangement that

works. That may not be your perception but it would be wrong of me not to give you a sense of my perception as one of the officers that is supporting him.

Moving on to the victim satisfaction point, I think that point is very well made. I go back to what I said earlier on about there being an opportunity with the victim support funding being devolved to MOPAC in 2014/2015 because we can then look at the end-to-end service that victims receive because the police have an important role to play around this. However, as you quite rightly say, there are other agencies that are engaged and I think that we are excited about that opportunity and it allows us to think through our commissioning framework how we can meet very specific needs. As I said, we very much welcome the report of your scrutiny because that will be a helpful contribution to that discussion and that debate, I am sure.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Thank you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Roger?

Roger Evans (AM): Yes, thank you, Chair. I think my colleagues may have picked some of the cherries out of this by the time I got here. Just to explore the targets, first of all, Deputy Commissioner, let us talk about the culture that target-setting creates. How do you make sure that the targets which you set drive performance and measure performance rather than create incentives to do things that we would not want people to do, make people focus in the wrong direction or even dare I say it fabricate results?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Those are real issues in terms of the challenge around it. First of all, you need a robust performance management framework. You cannot do anything around targets. First of all, we have targets at that very high level. We as the people underneath it need to understand down to a process level what the impact is of having a target on X in terms of what happens in the custody suite at Croydon at 3.00am in the morning. You really need to understand the process to be able to know where the targets are going to work. That is what the performance management system does. It has to work right across the organisation, the performance management system. It has to start from a ward level right to a pan-London level and we have that.

What you also need, and the piece of work that feeds into that performance regime, is you need an auditing mechanism. You need an integrity check on data. Part of the work that goes on is around things like national crime recording standards, national standards for incident recording, so when you look at the data for I will make it up - a borough that is all green, you also know that the data integrity is green. If the data integrity is red or amber, you might want to ask a few questions about the data. You have to have those systems. Without that, you can end up with a scenario as you described in your question where data can move and you do not really understand why that has happened. We need that whole system which is in place in the MPS. If you went to a Territorial Policing crime-fighters session where the 32 borough commanders and their teams are together and they are talking about it, part of what they will talk about is the integrity of the data.

I think over the years there have been so many problems in the past with police data that everyone, I hope, has reached a position where they know playing around with data in the long run just does immense damage to that other indicator we are worried about, around public confidence.

Roger Evans (AM): Do you look at deviation from the mean on data, in other words, if you have one borough that is getting 100% and everyone else is getting 60% odd?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, so you look at outliers. Realistically - sorry to cut across you - you do look at outliers at either end in terms of those that are performing really badly. We use a whole range of things from standard deviation to those longer trends of time. For instance, as we approach autumn nights, we know the types of crime that we are expecting to move and we have put a variety of things in place around autumn nights, so that whole range of analysis supports the data that we look at.

Roger Evans (AM): Can we just look at the seven crime categories that you have? I noticed your very first one is violence with injury. Why is that? Why is it not violence against the person?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know why we went for that. It is violence with injury and you would like the wider violence against the person?

Roger Evans (AM): Violence against the person I think is what we have used in the past. Violence with injury of course will not include threats of violence or attempted injuries.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes. I think violence with injury is probably a more realistic expectation of what people see on the street. I think the thing that worries us all and certainly members of the public I talk to is something where you end up experiencing an injury. I think you could have that wider category but it does draw in everything from harassment texts to a whole range of other things.

Roger Evans (AM): OK, so looking at knife crime, for instance --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It would be knife crime. It would be assaults.

Roger Evans (AM): But how do you identify a knife crime separately. That is something the Mayor is concerned about. It has been a key matter and it does not stand out there.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It does not stand out there. In our weekly data monitoring, knife crime and knife crime with injury is recorded as well.

Tony Arbour (AM): Possession of a bladed article?

Roger Evans (AM): Indeed, my colleague makes a good point here, which I was going to come on to. If you are looking at violence with injury, then a threatened knife attack will not be included. A knife attack where the blade gets caught in someone's clothing and deflected will not be included. Possession of a bladed weapon, as my colleague said, will not be included. Are you not diluting the figures here and actually making it look better just because of the figures you are choosing rather than because of the improvement?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I do not accept that point and I go back to my earlier point that this is not an exclusive performance management regime. I think what I am hearing from the Committee, which I think is helpful, is to see how these seven targets fit with the broader performance regime that operates within the MPS. I think that will give you a better sense of what it is we are monitoring and what the MPS has set internal targets for and what targets we are set as MOPAC. As you rightly say, knife crime is a key priority for the Mayor and we continue to look at that very closely both in terms of performance and also in terms of activity to impact on that.

One should not read in these targets that that means that we are deprioritising or not looking at other areas of activity. There will always be an element of judgement in identifying what the seven types would have been and there can be a discussion about whether that was right or wrong. These are the targets that were identified for the reasons that I articulated. The experience from things like the public attitudinal survey and other surveys we have done would suggest that these are the crime types that resonate most with the public and with Londoners. Within that you could have a debate about whether something else may or may not be included. The point I would make is that the identification of the seven does not mean that we are not very robust in monitoring performance against other crime types and other issues of concern.

Roger Evans (AM): All right. I am sure the Committee will want to come back to that because I think we have maybe exposed an important blind spot here.

Just looking at your other targets, theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle are two separate categories. Why is that?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Because they are two separate offences. In one you take the car away and in one you break in and --

Roger Evans (AM): Yes, but they often take place together and they are pretty much synonymous. They are what my residents know as vehicle crime.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, it is not. I understand they would put it in that group. They are not necessarily the same crime and the numbers are quite different. If I give you the running totals at the moment, theft from motor vehicles is about three times the level of theft of vehicles. Whilst clearly, I suppose unless you left the car open, it is very difficult not to do damage or to break into a car to steal it, they are quite different and often the reason and the offenders will be two quite different groups.

Roger Evans (AM): Is not the reason that theft of a motor vehicles has gone down that the manufacturers have made it harder to steal the vehicle, whereas it may still be just as easy to get the things out from inside it?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Of course there is some of that, but you will also have read, and you will have seen some of the commentary in the national media, that even with some of the new security devices, theft of motor vehicles is still a challenge. One of the challenges that we see around theft of motor vehicles now is the need for people to get the keys and the

immobiliser, so fishing hook burglaries, accosting people in the street for keys, that is the theft of motor vehicles.

Roger Evans (AM): So if someone breaks into my house, steals the keys and steals the car, that would count as two items on this agenda?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Two crimes, yes.

Roger Evans (AM): That is something else that maybe we need to watch.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Can I just come back to your point on knife crime, just to reassure you in relation to the weekly monitoring on knife crime. Serious youth violence, as I think the Chair asked me earlier, is weekly, knife crime, both incidents of it and sanction detection rate, and then another group of gun crime and gun sanction detection rates, in terms of where we are. The MPS, as part of its suite of indicators, is monitoring that, both on a daily, but producing it on a weekly basis.

Roger Evans (AM): Yes, OK, I think that is a separate issue for us in the future. I am sure we will come back to knife crime.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Len.

Len Duvall (AM): The last MOPAC Challenge in October identified the issues of the crime boards around a very rapid increase in volume of theft from the person in the boroughs. Given the period of time, and it was an annual comparison with the previous year, there has been an explanation, but have you had a chance to drill deeper into why this has occurred in that period of time?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, I have not per se. We have seen with theft from person work around both new technologies, so smart phones, pieces of equipment, around that. We also - I am trying to remember when it happened - April last year, changed the categories to make sure that robbery and theft from person, there was some distance between them. The Metropolitan Police Service still had a category that no one else used in the middle, so we have a clearer feel of what is going on, what a robber is and what are theft from persons. A whole range of work going on around particular boroughs, so things like some of the work where we know people will come into clubs and surf handbags, they will go into restaurants and surf bags and tables to steal stuff, and the work that goes on, particularly around some of the high-profile crime areas around tubes and those sorts of things where people come out. There is a whole range of activity going on in relation to it. The monthly crime-fighters reports are looking at theft from person in detail at every borough level.

Len Duvall (AM): It is just that we checked here, in terms of one of the answers given, was a new type of phone being out. These rises are across London, particularly in the Olympic boroughs, at the time of the Olympic boroughs, we were not exactly denuded of police responses, high visibility which would normally make people think twice about these crimes. We have young people out of school, they are not in school, so most of the thefts of this nature would have been from young people during school time, after school, with their phones. We are now moving into the autumn period, which this type of crime increases up to the period of Halloween and November in some ways.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, it does, but then it starts to go down again. Usually theft from the person, because one of the reasons that this crime is particularly prevalent, it relies on lots of people often in a public space. Some of the ones I have described, which we have seen on some of the premises along here, along the side of the river, where people will come into a premises and literally walk through it and go out with three or four iPhones, a laptop and an iPad.

Len Duvall (AM): But some of the increases we are seeing -- look Westminster, we will not talk about percentage share, but this is 2,391 Westminster, 1,035 in Islington/Camden. OK, that's your high mass people, and all the rest of it. But look, Bexley 47; that's quite a high figure for Bexley, an outer-London borough. Richmond upon Thames, god knows what they are doing over there; Tony having too many parties, there are 70. Those types of figures, what is the trend and what do we propose to do now then?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The trend around theft from person over the summer has been upwards and each --

Len Duvall (AM): Can I just say, at a time when we are telling people crime is going down.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It is overall.

Len Duvall (AM): It is overall. In terms of these issues and the ones that you say that matter to people, this must matter to people.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I think there is a danger with crime stats, when we all throw around numbers. One of my frustrations over many years has been, every one of these numbers is a victim, it is someone who has lost something, and that cannot be right. Therefore, one is too many for me. Every one of the boroughs has action plans about areas of crime, where they are in exception. They are doing work around what is the particular problem profile. They will look, where is the area on their borough, what are the issues around it, what are the trends, and then the whole range of tactics about where you can intervene with it, from high-profile policing to targeting the people who are handling the stolen goods at the end of the day, or people who are reprogramming phones or whatever the issue is that is being stolen.

Len Duvall (AM): But do you not accept on high-profile policing, I mean the Olympic boroughs stand out like a sore thumb on this at that period of time. Even if we suggested these were acting in areas with high numbers of crowds, if I look at Greenwich, my own borough, in terms of where that might have occurred, the deterrents are not working.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know about deterrents do not work, because if you --

Len Duvall (AM): Sorry, opposing that, I am not saying it does not, but it is clearly not working in some of these areas. In the Olympic boroughs where, let us face it, we never just had MPS deployment, we had deployment of outside -- of people, right. So let us go back to your original premise, these are crimes that are by and large occurring, the majority, where there is mass numbers of people. OK, so in

Newham 597, it was not exactly denuded of police in Newham. Right, in Tower Hamlets, another Olympic borough, 584. In Waltham Forest, the fringe of the Olympics, 242. In Greenwich, not denuded of police resources, I was falling over them, and rightly so, because we wanted to protect people from other crimes, 198. So numbers of police officers, which I think is important because of capacity issues, did not seem to work on this particular crime at that particular time.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, they did not.

Len Duvall (AM): So, right, what lesson can we learn from that?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Some of it will be everything from where were officers directed and how were they deployed, through to the range of tactics we use. For instance, do we have enough intelligence around theft from person and where the stuff is going; are there tactics with plain-clothes officers and other specialist targeting squads that we can use differently. If you look at the current property portfolio, theft from the person sticks out as the outlier.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, a question to MOPAC, you said earlier on there was a range of issues, and we should be grateful that MOPAC highlighted these issues and it was probably right for the Mayor to raise these questions around performance at this particular time. You mentioned about the bilateral meetings, are these the weekly bilateral meetings?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): These are the monthly bilateral meetings. The terms of reference has been shared with you.

Len Duvall (AM): Oh fine, and you mentioned that minutes are taken and the issue of transparency passed your lips. Are those minutes going to be put on a website about the issues?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes, there will be a note of meeting that will be placed on the website. I think that is right, Chair, there is a terms of reference with the --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It is not on the website yet, we have looked, we couldn't find it anywhere.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, it is not on the website yet; these are the arrangements that are just being introduced, but that is absolutely the intention. I think there is a terms of reference that was shared with this Committee, which is quite detailed in terms of content and what the arrangements are.

Len Duvall (AM): It is more about the publication of the minutes and the contents of those meetings. Can you tell us, then, what plans do MOPAC have of following up this work or will it just return to it in a year's time?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, absolutely not, no, there will be two processes for following these up. The primary interface with the Metropolitan Police Service is through those bilateral meetings with the Commissioner, so one would anticipate the way it would work is that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime would ask the questions that you

were asking. In fact if I had closed my eyes you could have been the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, the same sort of questions will be asked. The Commissioner would then undertake to look into that and one would expect that to be reported back at the next bilateral meeting. If there was still a concern about it, or it was felt that it needed greater scrutiny, there are a number of options available, not least the MOPAC Challenge, which might mean actually this is something we are going to focus on at MOPAC Challenge. I think that would be particularly true if it was something that involved broader partners in terms of the response, so that would be an opportunity to do that in public.

Of course, within that, we as officers may very well be discharged to do some analysis to support all that activity to make sure the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime was informed to ask intelligent questions,

Len Duvall (AM): OK, and just for a last question, Chair, for our milestone, when would you expect this to start tipping off seasonally in terms of from your experience?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Seasonally, probably about November.

Len Duvall (AM): From November, so --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Sorry to cut across you, dark nights will see a move around sheds, premises, those sorts of things again, and probably around November that trend should start, if it is following its seasonal average. The worry with that increase at the moment is that might not be a seasonal blip and that is why the work is ongoing around it.

Len Duvall (AM): All right, and so we should see it drop off anyway, but we should see it further drop off when we come back to look at these figures because of the plans that you have put in place, or some of the activities that you have put in place?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, and, if they do not, we have to up the plans again. But this on a monthly basis, with territorial policing, with the crime-fighters' meeting they run, when there are boroughs that are in exception, when boroughs get called in for particular focus around crimes, these are exactly the sort of areas they are looking at. It is getting into the detail of why, what is going on underneath it, what can we do both pan-London, so what can we do with specialist assets from across London, and what can we do at a local level? Is it as simple as there is a new place to get rid of goods in that particular borough or that part of the borough? It really is getting into that level of detail.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, thank you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I am going to bring Murad in and then, Len, I am returning to you for the next set of questions.

Murad Qureshi (AM): Yes, just a thought really. I mean there may be signs that this unfortunate trend of pick-pocketing is happening, only last night we heard of two Olympic medals being pinched in private events. What I would like to have is some idea of the extent to which this pick-pocketing is happening in private events, given the increases in the City of Westminster, Islington, Camden and Central London.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know, I am assuming we can break it down by venue, if we can we would be more than happy to provide it.

Murad Qureshi (AM): OK, I just ask that because essentially they have been stewarded privately and there may be a role for the police with the stewarding of these events to get on top of it, which does not involve the resources of the Metropolitan Police Service necessarily, but it would be useful to know that. Certainly in the Central London context, I suspect that is the explanation.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, we would be more than happy to provide that. The other sector that your question refers to as well, which is important around that, is the work being done with the licensing trade, because a proportion of these will take place in licensed premises and it is not in the interest of a licensed premises or anything else to have a reputation as somewhere where you go where, if you put a bag down or put anything down, you turn around and it is gone. We are working with the trade as well.

Murad Qureshi (AM): It also means some work with the councils as well.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): We now move on to a different area, Navin, it is you next.

Navin Shah (AM): Thank you, Chair. I have a few questions about the borough command units. If I can start with the Deputy Commissioner, what is the strategy driving your proposals for merger of borough commands?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Sorry, what is the strategic drive?

Navin Shah (AM): Yes.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): There are a number of strategic drives to look at that as an option. First and foremost, we have to save £500 million over the next three years, in terms of the work we have to do. Secondly, and it is a challenge I think for us in terms of looking forward, we looked in a meeting the other day with colleagues from the Greater London Authority (GLA) at a range of cost indicators around the Metropolitan Police Service. Sadly, on most of them, we were the outlier as high cost. One of those costs relates to the fact that we deliver services through a 32-unit model and while there are obvious boroughs that we all look at and say, "I can absolutely see how we get the efficiencies of scale, how we can do things, how people can flex resources", there are boroughs, and particularly boroughs when you get down to 300-odd officers, that by any national comparator are very small boroughs. The ability and the cost-effectiveness of being able to deliver across that model is something we said, as part of the proposals around the budget, we need to look at and we need to consult on. So that is the strategic drive around it.

Navin Shah (AM): Is that how you come about this model of 25 borough command units?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): That is one of the options.

Navin Shah (AM): Who authorised these discussions?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Sorry?

Navin Shah (AM): Who authorised the discussions?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Who authorised the discussions? It is part of a consultation around the work we have been doing around the budget. We have talked to a number of people around a range of options and we will continue to talk around a range of options.

Navin Shah (AM): Can I further explore. The Mayor has very formally ruled out the option of merging borough commanders. Given that situation, how will you obtain the financial savings, which you have just been talking about?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Can I just be very clear about what the MOPAC position is and what the Mayor has said. The Mayor is very clear that there will be dedicated borough commanders. Underneath that, there are a number of options that we need to explore, but there will be dedicated identifiable borough commanders. That is what the Mayor has committed to.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I asked the Mayor these questions and he seemed not to know that there was a consultation going on. I put it to him that he could have one borough commander looking after two boroughs, and he seemed to dismiss the idea that that was not acceptable. Is that your understanding?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): The MOPAC position is that every borough will have a dedicated borough commander. There is a discussion around --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That would only be dealing with one borough?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): There will be a dedicated borough commander that will have territorial responsibility for that borough. There is a question about --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): But could a borough commander be responsible for two boroughs?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): That is not the Mayor's position, no. The Mayor's position is that a borough commander will have responsibility for a borough. There is a question around rank, which we are still working through, which is a matter for the MPS. There is a question about what shared services across boroughs that borough commander may draw upon to support him or her in the discharge of their duties. However, the Mayor's position is very clear.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can I have a clear answer? A political answer from the Mayor. I thought he was telling me that you would have a separate person for each borough; you are telling me that is not right.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): No, I am not saying that. I am absolutely saying that there will be a dedicated borough commander, an individual borough commander for each borough.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Who will only have responsibility for one borough?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): With responsibility for that borough. But, underneath that, they may draw upon shared services where it makes sense to do so to discharge that responsibility. That is the Mayor's position.

Can I just pick up on the consultation point; there is no formal consultation. It is the case that the MPS, quite sensibly in my view, as part of their developing propositions are engaging with a range of partners with what I would describe as straw men with a view to get some views to inform the proposals that they will put together. We currently have not had a formal proposition and we are, as part of the MOPAC Challenge next Tuesday, going to look at the proposals for the operational policing model in some detail. That is the place for it.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you.

Navin Shah (AM): I am not sure who to believe here, because certainly what I have heard for example from my borough commander, and I represent Harrow, very clearly is that there will be merger of borough commanders within Harrow and Barnet. Barnet's borough commander has similarly informed to the relevant Assembly Member that is what the proposal is. This is something which has been actively promoted. So quite frankly we need to know what is going on.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Until we get to present the local policing model next Tuesday, there are no decisions made. We have to look at a range of options and we went through this in some detail with the Budget and Performance Committee the other day. The costing around, if we do something different around boroughs, at the low end it is about £10 million; at the top end it is about £12 million, if you went to a model that looked something like that. That is fine; we can ring-fence things and say we will not do that, but somewhere else we have to then go and find £11 million or £12 million. The reality, when you look at the size of the budget gap that the MPS faces over the next three years, you have to look at all options. I said previously here, before this Committee, there are no budget lines that we are not looking at. I absolutely understand where you are coming from in terms of it will set hares running, people will get different versions of the story as it goes through the organisation. I am absolutely alive to a point that has been raised by another Member where people will also brief against it. It is not right, it is not professional, but we are going through what will be a difficult process around budgets and people are going to fight their corners.

Navin Shah (AM): Can I ask MOPAC, what information had you sought about this issue from the Metropolitan Police Service before making public your stance, the stance that we have seen the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime promoting against the merger of borough commanders?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Mayor have set a requirement on the MPS, so they have effectively identified what for them are effectively red lines in terms of any restructure. The reason why the policing model is coming to the MOPAC Challenge next week is to absolutely give some visibility around that sort of decision. Nothing to date has been agreed. The Mayor's position is very clear and I will read from my brief, "All boroughs will have a dedicated borough commander post." That is the MOPAC position; the MPS are aware of that position. Within that they are having, as the Deputy Commissioner says, they have to explore a range of options. It is inevitable in an environment where there is significant change being discussed and considered that there will be some hares that are set running. Because of the very good links that borough commanders and others have, there will be stuff that they think may happen, but it has not been agreed. I can absolutely assure this Committee that no decisions have been made, that there will be a full discussion at the next MOPAC Challenge, which is open to the public, so that we can make sure that we have an opportunity to explore these issues. Maps that you have seen currently, which I know Members of the Committee have had, they are no more than MPS early thinking about what the future may look like. No propositions have been brought to MOPAC currently. We are involved in dialogue, of course we are, we are giving a sense of where we would like to see it go, but we have not made any decisions and we reserve any decisions until such time as we have had the proposition formally provided to us.

Navin Shah (AM): Sorry, Chair, if I can just -- I have a couple of further points. You know, whatever you say here, very clearly going by my borough example, and it is the same with Brent where thankfully there is no proposal for merging borough command. However, very, very clearly there is a huge amount of anxiety within the local community and opposition, if I may say so, given that we are being told we understand - and I mean Barnet and Harrow - that there is clearly the merger is being promoted. That is how it does seem at every board panel meeting or whatever I have attended. There is a clear consultation. Now how can this go on? I mean there is clearly a breakdown of communication here by the looks of it between MOPAC and MPS.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I would probably not be where you have ended up with your conclusion. I absolutely understand there is anxiety out there. I have spoken to London council leaders and others who absolutely do not want to see those proposals, and I fully understand why. However, I go back to the fundamental strategy, we have to do some of these things to look at the potential possibilities, and if at the end of the day we all rule it out that is fine. But when something comes up further down the line and someone says, "We do not want you to cut that unit", you run out of areas to go to save money. One of the big drivers that we talked through the other day in terms of trying to save money across the MPS, while trying to improve the number of constables and the operational service to the people of London, is to focus on our management ranks and management overheads, including chief officers, where we are very costly by all the comparators. We do have to look at some of those things.

We want to come to a position where when we get to do the work with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime we can get some consensus around all of this. I am sure that is ultimately achievable, but we will look at things, there will be hares set running. I am sure if you went and sat with the officers in Harrow now that is one of many of the hares that are running at the moment around change. If you sat

with the police staff they would be worried about whether they have jobs in the future. There are lots of hares running at the moment; that is an inevitable part of major change.

Navin Shah (AM): Can I ask you two last questions, one is that what the decision was not to merge, where will you find that budget gap that you just mentioned about from?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know yet, but somewhere, as we go into year 2 and 3, there will be other areas we have to go and look at, absolutely. I genuinely could not answer that question for you.

Navin Shah (AM): The last question, who in the end will be signing off the decision whether to merge or not?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Ultimately it will be the Mayor and MOPAC, but I am very confident, on the basis of the conversations and discussions that are going on, that we will come to an agreement around how we will meet the funding gap and how we will maintain the requirements the Mayor has set around a dedicated borough commander. I am confident on that basis. We look forward to receiving the MPS proposals. I have to be clear, there has not been any formal MOPAC consultation because we have yet to receive any proposals. All the Mayor has done is made clear his requirement in terms of dedicated borough commanders, and it is on that basis that the MPS are doing their plans. I say again, within that, there may very well be, across boroughs, shared resource where it makes sense to do so that the borough commander may draw upon rather than having dedicated teams sitting underneath him or her for every single function. That is not for us to get into that level of detail. The Mayor's commitment is around a dedicated borough commander, not in terms of services that he or she may draw upon to discharge their territorial functions.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Just a warning to Members that we are behind time already, so if our interventions could be to the point and perhaps ask our guests as well that if you feel like you are repeating things, perhaps refer to the previous answer. Caroline.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): I just want to be absolutely clear on this, because you are saying there are a range of options, but the Metropolitan Police Service has a model, one Metropolitan Police Service model that has been approved by the MPS management board, which you have been consulting on, and in that model, the model has a basis of sharing chief superintendents across a number of boroughs. That is part of this model that you have consulted on, so it is one model that you are consulting on, not a range of options, is that right?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No. The one Metropolitan Police Service model has been agreed by management board, but that is neighbourhood policing. The first part of neighbourhood policing that is being done is the local policing model, of which the debate around borough commanders is absolutely part of it.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, and then let us just clarify, Andrew, you just said that ultimately the Mayor and MOPAC are going to make the decision on whether there is a sharing of borough commanders, and you have made your position clear.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Our position in terms of dedicated borough commanders is very clear. The MOPAC position that there will be dedicated borough commanders is one. Secondly, the policing model will need to be agreed with the Mayor as part of the sort of budget settlement and the resource allocation piece, but I am confident that on the basis of discussions today that there will be an agreement over that.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): What rank are these dedicated borough commanders going to be; are they still going to be chief superintendent, and Westminster and Lambeth have a more senior commander, or are they going to be at a much lower level? How low is the rank going to go?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We have not defined that; that is a matter for the MPS to consider and to come back with some proposals. We will consider that, we will consider their recommendations around that. Clearly we would need to be satisfied that those operating at borough commander level had the authority, seniority and experience to discharge their functions. However, that is a matter for the MPS and we look forward to receiving their plans. The Mayor's position is dedicated borough commanders.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK. Now at the Budget and Performance Committee on Tuesday, the Deputy Commissioner made it clear that ultimately this was an operational matter and a matter for the MPS. If you get to a position where the MPS have to make huge savings, they are saying this is the only way they can make savings, they will go ahead and share borough commanders against MOPAC's advice and so on. Where does the buck stop? Craig, can you clarify, you think ultimately --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I think ultimately we get close to areas of direction and control. I do not think we will end up there; I think we will be able to get to a position where there is a coming together of ideas, but I think this is indicative, as we get into some very difficult areas, as we work through the budget.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): But do you consider this to be an operational matter?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I think, when you get to the issues around what is the rank and role of that, yes.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): So sharing borough commanders could be an operational matter?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): You could argue it is an operational matter.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): So we can see there that you could be at absolute loggerheads.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): But there is no intention to get to loggerheads. Part of the reason of trying to talk to people is not to end up in loggerheads. I go back to the very sensible question about what is the strategic context and challenge. At the end of the day, things will go out of the Metropolitan Police Service budget that some people will not like. You

know, and a number of you spent a number of time looking over the budget earlier in the week; that is the reality.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, thank you.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Until five days ago, the Mayor's stated decision on police numbers was 32,000. He has now shifted on that; he has broken that pledge. Why should we believe this dedicated borough commander promise any more than the 32,000 police officers promise?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I have to challenge the premise that he has broken his pledge; that is not the case.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I have the letter with the --

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): You have an advantage over the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime because he is yet to see that letter because it came when he was on leave. I also know that there was a statement put out, which I do not intend to read to you, but it is on the record, there was a statement put out last night clarifying the Mayor's position. It said very clearly that the commitment remains unchanged. What I can say, from a MOPAC perspective, we are very clear that we have a funding challenge that we need to meet and within that there is --

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I am sorry; that is a repetition. What is still going to be met? Just tell me again, what?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I can read you the statement, but --

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): No. Which promise is going to be met?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): To maintain police numbers at or around 32,000.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): So the letter we have is inaccurate?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): As I say, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has yet to see that letter so I cannot comment on his behalf on that. There was a statement put out by the Mayor's Office saying that the commitment remains unchanged, and I can only point you to that. I cannot --

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Well could we possibly have a copy of that because that is not what we --

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is a statement that went out in the press notice; it is a media statement, so it is on the public record. I am very happy to read it.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It was in relation to a press inquiry, Jenny.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): We could still see it perhaps.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is on the press notice.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Yes, Chair, and I am happy for Craig to refer me to the answers he has given to Caroline, because he has confirmed what I think most people who have been around policing recognise that the rank and role, the control of operations rests with the MPS. That is something that is going on all the time when you are reviewing. I was once shadowing a former Commissioner and on his Monday morning meetings he reorganised his top team, and somebody went to Northern Ireland and blah, blah, blah, and there had been no consultation with anybody, he just thought about it. That operational responsibility, which is natural, which is known, has not changed because of anything that came through with the new legislation. I think Londoners want to know that is fine, because these meetings are about just clarifying things.

Can you just clarify then, because some will know and some will not, you already have about three grades of what I would call top cop to boroughs, do you not?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Can you just put them on record so that we can be clear? Why I want this to be clear is because the Mayor is a known wordsmith, so in a sense when he talks about borough commander that could be a generic term that could then be linked to a grade.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Where we have borough commanders, and I think one of the Members referred to Lambeth and Westminster, it is in fact only Westminster. Westminster has a commander for Westminster. Lambeth has a chief superintendent.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Yes, but can I just stop you there, that commander is at a higher grade.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Westminster, given the size, the scale of Westminster, it is the size of police forces outside London, so you are absolutely right to highlight, that is a chief officer grade, he is a commander. The other 31 boroughs are chief superintendents, and then sitting above them on area level, effectively looking at a group of borough commanders, are commanders.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Commanders, right, but not different to somebody who could be called a borough commander. You could, because I have seen the structure that talks about you going back to area really, going back to east, south, north and wherever; that would be --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): That is not a borough -- I think I understand where you are coming from; that is not a borough commander. You are absolutely

right, the current rank across the 32 boroughs of London, i.e. the London boroughs, is chief superintendent with the exception of Westminster.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): What grades would you be looking at possibly to --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am not going to speculate. We have not gone into that level of detail, so I do not think it would be right that I speculate.

Tony Arbour (AM): We accept the view, which has been expressed by the Mayor, which we directly elected members, we take the view that the most important thing for our boroughs is that there is a designated chief officer of whatever rank who is going to be responsible for the borough. That is key to us. If the Mayor says that he is going to do that, we certainly accept that.

There is one additional thing that I want to raise with you in relation to this, is it not a fact that in many boroughs, certainly at night, in effect they operate as one? If I give you an example, two of my boroughs, Kingston and Richmond, at night, because of their peculiar geography, in effect act as a single borough. I would say, to my knowledge, this has been operating for years. There has never been a single complaint, there has never been a suggestion that on a particular night the chief officer happened to be the Kingston-based chief superintendent, on another night it was the Richmond-based chief superintendent, there was gratitude that there was a chief superintendent in charge. I would have thought that was a model to look at, but certainly we on this side think that the Mayor's undertaking is entirely appropriate, Chairman.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Just to pick up on that point, you are entirely right, that does happen. Clearly, some of the specialist assets are already controlled right across London and go where the need is. Boroughs will share those sorts of things. At a really practical level, having been out recently with an operational officer in North London, they regularly go across borough boundaries. It would be very strange if we said, "they have made an arrest and there is a custody unit there, but by the way, your own one in your borough is 10 miles back the other way". They do move around.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Roger, and then I am going to move on to our next topic with Len. Roger.

Roger Evans (AM): Thank you, Chair. Obviously you have quite a bit of flexible working between boroughs and within your own service. Are you looking at more flexible working with shared services involving the other emergency services?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, if we can, it would be a very good idea, and I speak from a background in previous roles elsewhere of being heavily involved in the rollout of the first two joint emergency services control rooms in the United Kingdom (UK), which were in Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. We are looking and talking to other emergency services. I think the reality is, as you see budgets contract over a long period of time, we will see some innovation and creativity that we have probably not been able to get through before. Absolutely talking to our colleagues in fire, the chief fire officer has talked about their plans, we have agreed to share our plans,

and look where there are really sensible synergies to come together, because I think that is what the people of London would expect of us.

Roger Evans (AM): Yes, so in cases, for example, where you have to close a police station and the public-facing counter, which is a thing people are concerned about, and we have the undertaking of the Mayor, which I think is quite important, that will be re-provided, would you consider using the fire station or local council buildings?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Roger Evans (AM): It would be more than two days down at Sainsbury's with Nectar points, which is the thing that has been suggested.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am not aware the MPS is giving Nectar points now as well, but --

Roger Evans (AM): It would seem like the logical development.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely look at those sorts of things, and many of us who have come into London to work have come from environments where that was quite normal, to have front counters in ambulance stations, having ambulance, fire and police in the same base, it is about what works for the community.

Roger Evans (AM): It seems to me like a natural synergy, but there has been resistance, resistance, resistance, over a long period of time to doing this with the Metropolitan Police Service.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): From personal experience, I do not underestimate the resistance you get in all three organisations. It would be wrong to say the police are perfect, we are not on that.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Len.

Len Duvall (AM): Operation Terminus, I think if we can begin with MOPAC, I think you have had representations, the Refugee and Migrant Forum of East London has written to the Mayor around those issues. Do we happen to know what the Mayor's response to the letter from this group is?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I was not aware of that letter, I will check and we will come back to you on that point.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, well I think they have written to him, let me just clarify it. They probably have written to him as Mayor of London and that might well be one of the issues around it, but it is about policing operations. OK, if you could share that response for this Committee that would be useful.

If I can now turn to the Deputy Commissioner, obviously a growth issue, the issue is we are told that this is going to be targeted at criminal-led. Can you give me an assurance then that we are not going to be dealing with the overstayers then, that is a different arrangement and a completely separate

arrangement because I am not sure if overstayers is a criminal activity or not. Can you give that assurance?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Terminus, where we are at the moment is only taking place in the custody units, so this is around how we deal with offenders who happen to be foreign nationals. It is fair to say in the past it has been a rather cottage industry, i.e. if you arrive at a custody unit and people know their way around the processes and know how to access various national and international databases, then things get checked and get done. What this has done is try to bring that into a scale where it is absolutely industrialised. So someone arrives in a custody unit and we do all the proper checks that the communities would expect. But this is around --

Len Duvall (AM): Forgive me, we are basing our work on what the MPS circulated, which was not about the custody focus of Terminus but the establishment of dedicated hit teams, if I can call them that, my words, probably hit teams to go out into the community, working with the UK Border Agency (UKBA), and picking these people off the streets. That is the flavour, and that is what the Integrated Advisory Groups (IAG) have been consulted with and those issues. That is exactly what the MPS put out in its material, dedicated teams established in boroughs, some would say at a time when my safer neighbourhood teams are not fully complemented. We can manage to find resources to establish these teams to go out into communities and take these criminals off the streets.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The teams, MPS officers and UKBA officers, are working through custody suites, it is around identifying -- I do not know the briefing you are referring to, but dedicated police officers and UKBA staff have been identified and trained, embedded in MPS custody suites across London, and this is around working for those high-risk people, so sex offenders, gang members, gun crime, it is those high-risk people, looking at, is there another potential way of dealing with them when they arrive in the custody unit? It is not at this stage --

Len Duvall (AM): It is just in terms of normal people that we pick up in our day-to-day activities, if they happen to be foreign nationals then they are dealt with in process terms in the custody suites. Do you not think, on the consultation -- what was the reason for the constrained consultation that occurred in terms of establishing this piece of work, because it has set a number of hares running? I have mentioned, in terms of maybe a misconception that I have, would that not have been resolved by some proper consultation? I understand this went through an IAG group, we have tried to establish who was in attendance, and we cannot get that information. My office tried to do that when this story first arose. Who, when and where was the consultation done, and why were certain other groups almost excluded from that discussion?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know why groups were excluded. Having seen the tone of the letter, and the things coming out of it, I think your point is well made about whether we could have been wider in the consultation and more involving, because clearly it has created this misconception that somehow even the most minor crime will be picked up around these sorts of things. That is not the intention of this piece of work. I was not aware you do not have the details of who was consulted, IAGs, I am more than happy to take that one away and get you those details.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, so you can assure us it is more about training of existing officers rather than new officers being placed into the custody suite?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): There are new officers but they have come from our central commands. They have come from some of the work we are doing around serious and organised crime, because the scale of the challenge - and this is one of these issues that we are immensely conscious of the community sensitivities around, we are trying to be conscious - but we have a scale of a challenge around foreign nationals going through our custody units, if we look at about 18,000 people going through the custody units in the first quarter of this year who were foreign nationals. Now I think the public would expect, in the way if you or I are unfortunate enough to go through the custody units, that we can check national DNA database, we can check your fingerprints, we know who you are, we can probably confirm where you live so when we bail you, you know there is a fighting chance you might come back. This is about, as I say, industrialising that process around foreign nationals. Where it raises issues about why that person is in the country, it then, particularly around serious and harmful people, does raise a number of other opportunities. However, I think the point you make, we have probably not explained that well enough.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, right. In terms of some of that you have been picked up, are you going to undertake an exercise within the community? Look, on all these numbers, and I am very -- the police are always telling me to be very careful about percentages and numbers used. Yes, a third of all our arrests may be foreign nationals, but a third of London's residents are foreign nationals, so, surprise, surprise, but it can be misconstrued. However, for me on the numbers game, it is like all criminality, it is the few causing the crimes, including the most violent crimes, and actually the majority of people, whether they are foreign nationals or UK residents, are law-abiding citizens.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely.

Len Duvall (AM): Are we going to do an exercise in terms of reassurance among some of those migrant communities and foreign nationals who we want to come forward because crimes, usually these foreign nationals will do crimes in their own communities, who we need them to come forward, to give them confidence that when they come forward they are not going to be persecuted by the UK Border Agency, because criminality and detecting criminality must be a higher priority than about someone's status and issues?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I absolutely agree with that. We are doing a community impact assessment on a weekly basis to tell us what is happening across the boroughs, so we are doing that work. There is a dedicated team under Mr [Mark] Rowley, Assistant Commissioner, and the feedback around the work going on in boroughs I will absolutely take back to make sure that is happening.

Len Duvall (AM): Will you share that -- if you have done an equality impact assessment? I think this is one of the calls from one of the groups saying, "if you had done that, you might have resolved some issues or some other issues may have come to light." Has that been undertaken by the way?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I genuinely do not know the answer to that; it is not in my brief, I would not want to guess.

Len Duvall (AM): Could you --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I will give you a written answer to that.

Len Duvall (AM): Now let us go back to MOPAC then. We have a letter to the Mayor, is this on your radar? What is the -- I dare not ask what the views of the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime are, because he might not tell me, but in a sense what is MOPAC's issue on this and in relation to this piece of work?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We are aware of the operation. We understand, or I certainly understand that it is a targeted operation in terms of people who have offended. We obviously are concerned with any police activity that impacts on public confidence, so therefore would want to keep a sort of watching brief around that. I do not think it has come up as part of any discussion with the Commissioner as part of the formal engagements, but it is certainly something, on the back of your question, with the response that the MPS provided, I think it is something that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime would want to have a look at to satisfy himself around public confidence and the impact on public confidence issues. I think it is helpful that you have raised it because it will allow us to satisfy ourselves on that point as well.

Len Duvall (AM): Just on new operational issues and new pilots in some ways, because this had been a pilot in the five boroughs, is there some mechanism between yourselves and MOPAC to list new projects that have been undertaken on an operational basis, either as a pilot basis or that you are instituting that change? Is there a sort of clearing house between that, or is it as and when?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I am not aware of there being one currently. I think it is a helpful suggestion for us to understand what is being tested, what the evaluation is, what that is teaching us, and how that is informing operational practice going forward. I am sure all of that happens, but I think it happens in terms of the MPS. It probably is helpful for us to be sighted on that, so I think that is something we will take away and have a look at.

Len Duvall (AM): OK, and if you can do that, then we would be very happy to receive information about that so it would help us in terms of understanding some of those issues.

Now, going back, can I just raise an issue about transparency and issues of consultation and IAGs and issues? I think they have a very important role in policing and sometimes in operational policing, but there is a tendency for the police to hide behind this initial consultation rather than be open and transparent, and when you start asking questions of who. So, will you go back and look at the way that you are dealing with, or the use of IAGs, in terms of -- I mean it is not endorsements - well it almost is an endorsement the way the MPS use it - it is more like it should be a sounding board, it should not be an endorsement. If you are professional advice, you do not need somebody to endorse it, it is about a sounding board, about overcoming some of the problems. I certainly would like to hear about whether there were other problems raised at those initial meetings following the pilots, as I am raising now, and shared by other Members of this Committee - probably from all parties - about the implementation of this. Not what you are trying to achieve, it is the implementation of it, it sends a different signal, and

sends hares running, as you said earlier on. Can you look at how those groups are being used by the Metropolitan Police Service in terms of some of these projects?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am more than happy to.

Len Duvall (AM): Thank you.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, I want to talk about the general issue of fraud, and then I want to get into a specific example. First of all, perhaps briefly, Deputy Commissioner, you could outline what the police are doing, what checks you have in place, to alert you to cases of potential fraud?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): In general?

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Within the Metropolitan Police Service.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Within the Metropolitan Police Service, as in committed by the Metropolitan Police Service?

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Yes, by Metropolitan Police Service officers, what sort of processes you have in place.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Sorry, I am with you. In terms of the checks and review, I think you are referring to things like credit cards and those sort --

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Yes, I am going to come on to credit cards, but just generally in terms of fraud within the Metropolitan Police Service, what processes do you have in place to alert you when there are such cases?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I have, through the Department of Professional Standards, through things like Right Line, through internal reporting systems, a number of ways of identifying particular issues of fraud, dishonesty and those general principles. Through colleagues in the Directorate of Resources, so through finance, we can look at and audit spend and expenditure and look for outliers, so we can look at a range of things around that. All the way through to management board level, all expenses and expenditure end up coming through me. We also then, to the audit committee, which is now a MOPAC and MPS joint committee, report those expenditures through that, and with colleagues from internal audit from the Directorate of Audit, Risk and Assurance (DARA) we have also done reviews of those sorts of controls to look at whether they work and what the feedback is in relation to those. Those are the systems and processes we have in place to allow us to do that.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): That is quite a wide range of processes. I come to Andrew now in terms of MOPAC, we know you have appointed Simon Duckworth to chair your audit committee. Presumably a risk register has gone to that. Do you want to talk us through and give us a flavour of the key risks that are on your risk register that has gone to audit, which ones are red?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I would need to write, I do not have the level of detail to provide a full answer, so I would need to write to you on that.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, do you want to give us a flavour, perhaps some of the discussions that audit have had?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): My role as interim deputy chief executive did not cover the police accountability and the audit stuff. I have not been part of any discussions, so I would not be able to give you a full answer. However, I will provide you a comprehensive letter on that point.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): I would appreciate that, particularly given our July meeting I raised this with the Deputy Chair, and I raised the issue of some work the former MPA was doing with academic research and other interviews they were going to bring forward, looking at this particular issue. Are you aware of that report? Has it emerged yet?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I am not aware of that, but I will write to you on this issue.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Craig is nodding; have you seen --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I have seen the report in relation to those controls and mechanisms, and we have done some work with both that and the HMIC *Fear and Favour Report* to look at those sort of lessons from them, and some of the key findings. Some of it is around the quality of the data and the systems and then, exactly as your first question came to, it is how robust are the processes.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): It would be useful if it is possible to see that report. As I say, it was started under the MPA, we were expecting it.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I will look into that. The one thing I can report is that our response to the HMIC *Fear and Favour Report*, we are working on having a response to that early in the new year, so there is that bit. There is an activity, I am just not in a position to brief the Committee as fully as I would like.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, let us get on to the specific of credit cards. This was an issue particularly on the corporate governance committee of the old MPA we looked at in great detail. We are talking historically we had the American Express cards where we had 3,500 issued in the Metropolitan Police Service, we had £3.7 million unreconciled expenditure at one time, and we saw about 59 disciplinary procedures and prosecutions. In 2008 you had Barclay cards introduced and we still saw some low levels of potential fraud and some relating to those. I am wondering if you could tell us today, perhaps Craig to start off with, the number of Barclay cards that are in operation in the Metropolitan Police Service, the total claims that are over 30 days and that are unreconciled, and perhaps the number of cases of disciplinary procedures that have taken place since they were introduced in 2008.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you, yes, there are currently 2,363 in issue, down from that high figure of 3,530. If I give you the results for September, the last full month for which we have figures available, we are now on average reconciling within 37 days of statements being received, so that is done. I am just looking for the figure on the problems we have had. I have read it, but I do not want to quote it without getting the number right. I will find it in the briefing note, but it is much, much smaller numbers. Certainly, as you rightly say, we had considerable issues in October 2007. I will find it for --

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Do you have the figure for the unreconciled, you said it has taken 37 days to reconcile, but how many figures are you finding that are longer than that, do you have that figure?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, I do not, I --

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): It would be useful to have that comparison.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I can get that figure for you. What we do now in relation to the spend is we look at the top five categories of spend across the piece. We look particularly at any cash spend in terms of where it will be, and the limits have been lowered dramatically on cash spend. During the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and the Torch, to ease some of that, we used prepaid cards, so used something that had a much lower limit on it and was much clearer about what it was for. On travel, again, that has now been analysed, we can break that down on a monthly basis to a transport code, and then go back to challenge individual areas. But I will find you -- I do not have the figure to hand on the unreconciled amounts, so I will get that for you.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Can you just have a look for the figure of the number of cases you have had to take disciplinary procedures on, while I ask Andrew, what is MOPAC's role in looking at this? This is a very serious issue. Does MOPAC have any corporate credit cards?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): On the latter point, I am not aware that we do. I do not think we have, but I would need to check on that point. In terms of the sort of MOPAC role, what I can say on that is that the MOPAC Directorate of Audit Risk and Assurance continues to review the control framework. A DARA review was concluded in May 2012 and reported in summary to the joint MOPAC/MPS audit panel on 28 June. Unhelpfully, my briefing does not say what that said. However, the counter-fraud team within DARA continues to work with the MPS in analysing corporate charge spend on a regular basis and the assurance that I have had is that they are assured that the necessary controls are in place. As I say, unhelpfully, my briefing does not include the detail of what that report said, but I am sure we can share that with you.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): I really would appreciate that in writing because it is an issue certainly I and colleagues have raised and have been following for a long time.

Craig, do you have the --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Eight issues since the change of process.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): You have had eight disciplinary procedures?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Eight recorded cases of misuse.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): OK, so that has gone down considerably, lovely. I will leave it there, but if I could have that extra detail in writing I would appreciate it.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, happily.

Caroline Pidgeon (Deputy Chair): Thank you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Wonderful. Jennette.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Yes, Chair. The question, if I can start to the Deputy Commissioner, it is regarding the English Defence League (EDL) march planned for 27 October 2012, this Saturday coming, and its impact on the borough. It is planning to march in Waltham Forest, a borough I represent, its impact on Islington, the neighbouring borough, I also represent, but the other boroughs affected are Tower Hamlets and Newham. I wonder if the Deputy can just give us an update, knowing that the Metropolitan Police Service has now joined others, I have to say, from my point of view, a bit late in the day, because the EDL should never have been allowed to march on 1 September 2012 when they were stopped because over 3,000 of us, as anti-fascist and anti-racist campaigners, stopped them in their tracks. Welcome that the MPS is onboard now and has asked the Home Secretary to prohibit the marches. Can he tell us, does he have any update for us? If not, tomorrow is Friday and the march is Saturday. When will she make up her mind?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I know the issue went over. I came straight here this morning. I have not had an update from Scotlant Yard yet. It is with the Home Secretary and officials in relation to an authority being sought by us to ban processions in Newham, Islington, Waltham Forest and Tower Hamlets for 30 days from 27 October. I would imagine we will have an answer either this afternoon or tomorrow at the latest, if it is not already in, but I emphasise that I have not checked.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Can I just go on to say that, because of the lateness of the MPS getting on board, it means there will be static gatherings. I have just looked up and the EDL site is saying, even if they are banned, they will be holding a static protest in Walthamstow on Saturday. The response - and I am not going to apologise for this, because I am a member of both the organisations - from both the Unite Against Fascism (UAF) and We Are Waltham Forest is that, if that is the case, then they are also going to hold a static protest in Waltham Forest.

The lateness of the MPS coming on board will mean that you then have to deploy police staff because there will be something going on. We are talking about thousands gathering in Walthamstow in a community that has done nothing to anyone except been targeted by fascist and racist thugs. Why were you so late in getting on board?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I refute the late getting on. We can only work, around bans, with what we have in the law, and with the intelligence and information we have in relation to it. You are absolutely right to raise the issue about people arriving and static. There is an operation that will run this weekend, a major policing operation. It would always have to run. The banning order will stop processions. Those are always the challenges with these pieces of legislation. We can go for it when we have the evidence and intelligence to be able to support the application to the Home Secretary.

Jennette Arnold (AM): You can tell me that it is operational matters, but I am forced to say to you the behaviour of the EDL, and fascist and racist organisations like this, does not change overnight. Their mission is to go into communities, cause disharmony, and, if they can, do damage and attack members of minority communities, the gay community, whoever they see as being different to them.

And so, I do have to say to you again or shall I put it this way: are you saying that in the last five days you received information that meant that their march coming this Saturday would be different to the march that they had on the first?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I think you may be aware, and it is certainly in the public domain, that we made a number of arrests last weekend around this organisation.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Yes.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): As you would expect with anything, we constantly then evaluate what may or may not take place.

Jennette Arnold (AM): You are saying that the information you gathered that got you on board was new intelligence about this organisation.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I am saying we constantly review the intelligence and information about particular events.

Jennette Arnold (AM): If I just finish with this question, I just have to say I have been asked time and time again and most recently, how is it possible for the police to ban cyclists who do not go out and racially abuse, and damage, or cause social disharmony? Yet the police in London find it so difficult and - it is usually in their experience and mine - late to the point of requesting the ban against the EDL.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): The reality around these banning orders is that they are a decision for the Home Secretary at the end of the day.

Jennette Arnold (AM): You have to apply.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Absolutely, we have to apply to the Home Secretary in relation to seeking one of those banning orders. You would expect with an event like a march or a procession, whoever it is, that actually the picture around them changes the

closer you get to an event. I absolutely understand the frustration around this particular event and some of the sensitivities around it, but we can only work with what we have.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Well, I can only say and declare now that I shall be at the front of this counter-march or static demonstration, because we will not tolerate fascists and racists like the EDL on the streets of Waltham Forest, Islington, or anywhere I believe in London. I just have to say it seems to me it is going to be a big one on Saturday. It will be a big gathering on Saturday.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): There is a major Metropolitan Police operation for Saturday and we will be able to cope with whatever comes up.

Murad Qureshi (AM): Thank you, Chair. I will happily join Jennette on Saturday as well. Can I firstly welcome the MPS' support of the ban promoted by Waltham Forest, though it is very late in the day. Is the real issue here not essentially that the MPS still does not think the EDL is part of the far right? We had Sir Paul Stephenson in September 2009, the then-Police Commissioner, suggesting to the MPA that the EDL is not viewed as an extreme right-wing group in the accepted sense?

Jennette Arnold (AM): "A charity".

Murad Qureshi (AM): We have also had, last year, Adrian Tudway the head of the National Domestic Extremism Unit at Scotland Yard suggest in an exchange of emails that, in terms of the position with the EDL, the original stance stands. "They are not an extreme right-wing group". Does the MPS still hold that perspective, given what you know and we know?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not categorise groups like that. I know the challenges EDL brings to communities. I do not put people on a political spectrum. I am not qualified to do that. I know the challenge and threat that this particular group presents in terms of marching, of their assemblies. I am absolutely clear on that. This is another one where we tread that very fine line that exists in a democratic society between people's right to protest about a whole range of issues and people's right to counter-protest. It is not a very comfortable position sometimes to be in, but that is where we are. I do not think it is for the MPS to say someone is part of an extreme political group of whatever persuasion in terms of doing it. Actually, it is for us to say we understand the threat, the risk, and the harm these individuals can cause.

Murad Qureshi (AM): OK, well, I will have to ask that on another occasion to the present Police Commissioner and see if there has been a change in perspective, because I think it is certainly the case that a lot of people think that is the case.

Can I just come back to what you have said to Jennette about the static protests. Can you not use your powers under section 14 of the Public Order Act to insist that the EDL protest is at least held somewhere else away from the centre of Walthamstow.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not think you want me now to go into some of the tactics that potentially --

Murad Qureshi (AM): I was not asking for you to go into tactics. It is operational. I understand this.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, sorry, it is not about that. I am very conscious that we are live. If we start talking about what may or may not happen --

Murad Qureshi (AM): OK, I understand.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, I think it is an important point, sir, if I may. The range of tactics that may be available, I guarantee you by Saturday that people will frustrate them by doing something else. You will understand why I am not going to speculate.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is fine. Let us move on.

Murad Qureshi (AM): OK, can I just reinforce the point, something else. Tomorrow, you have the beginnings of a religious festivity, Eid.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Murad Qureshi (AM): It is a clear attempt to intimidate families celebrating the festivity of sacrifices.

Jennette Arnold (AM): Absolutely, absolutely.

Murad Qureshi (AM): Subject to the weather, people particularly in the Pakistani community in Walthamstow will be happily moving around in the neighbourhood between friends and family, along with other communities in Walthamstow. I think you have to look seriously at why they are coming again, particularly after last weekend, when they tried to get into Whitechapel.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Rest assured, that is all part of the work that has gone on. I hope you will understand why I am not going to get into a debate about potential tactics.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. I am going to move on now to police registration certificates. I have been contacted by the University of London Union and there have been press reports about the debacle that happened only a few weeks ago where I understand that students who are foreign nationals have to register with the police. Recently the category of students who have to register has been widely widened. I understand that the numbers are now higher. We have had reports that the MPS has struggled to cope with demand and that some of the information given by the police may have been confusing.

We have had examples of international students saying that they are going to be dealt with on a first-come-first-served basis at your one office, the Overseas Visitors Records Office. We have had students queuing up all day, and then still not being seen at the end of a long day's queuing and often in bad weather as well, and being very concerned that unless they register in time they could be committing offences and be subject to penalties. They felt humiliated by their treatment and look at the MPS as providing that humiliation treatment. Could you just briefly, because I am aware of the time we have, say what went wrong and what alternative arrangements you have put into place? Will it happen again in December when I understand the next batch of registrations will happen?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): For those that do not know the legal background to this - and I know this might sound a bit boring, but it is important - this is a 1972 piece of legislation that originally specified that people from a prescribed list of countries had to register with the police within a set period of time.

Originally, when this legislation first came in, it was somewhere like 180 countries. In the mid-1990s, this piece of legislation was reviewed and it came down to around 40-odd countries where students have to do it. The numbers have not increased this year in terms of the requirement of people to do it. There is anecdotal information that obviously some of the high profile cases around registration and status have meant that people have been saying, "You have to get down to this office. You have to be registered straight away." That is why we have seen that very quick spike in terms of numbers.

We have done a number of things. We are working with Universities UK. We have put more offices and staff into that unit. We have offered appointment times on a Saturday. We have offered block pre-registration to some of the universities and facilities. I think we have dealt with the stuff that has come this year. I absolutely understand, if you have been standing outside a building in Bow and literally been there all day and do not get in, we have let you down. You are frustrated and I can understand that.

We have also then, for the more medium to long term, started the debate with both Universities UK and the Home Office about the need for this piece of legislation. The reality is a people register. It is not about their immigration status. That is dealt with somewhere else. We make very little use of that information, so it seems like it is one of these pieces of legislation that perhaps if we all sat around the table and looked at there might not be a need for it or we could potentially do it differently. That is what we have been working with the Home Office and others on now.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): The Mayor, in answer to me, has said he has written to the Home Secretary, suggesting that they could replace current police procedures in favour of the UKBA sponsorship management system where it is done by universities. Would that be an approach you would welcome?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes, and as I say, that is why the history -- It is a 1972 piece of legislation that has literally just kept going. We have details on a database that we hardly ever use or refer to. I do not think in this day and age that it is beyond us all to come up with a solution that works far better for the students and gives a better impression of London.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Hopefully, by the next December deadline, as I understand.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Lovely.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Can I just add: that is our primary interest. Clearly, we are aware of this issue because of the publicity. We are assured about the short-term measures that the MPS has put in place but we are standing by to support the MPS

in making any recommendations they may wish to about how the arrangements can be changed, indeed, if it is legislative because they do not add any value, or a process. We are on this.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is helpful.

Tony Arbour (AM): I am happy to have my printed question on this dealt with, please, in a written way. That relates to the declining use, if there has been a declining use, of the forensic services since the management has changed. If I could have that, please.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I would be more than happy to do that. I can answer it if you want me to.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It is the time limit. If you are happy sitting there for a further little while, we can carry on too, but if you have somewhere to be then we can certainly do it in writing.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Shall I do it in writing?

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Yes, thank you. Jennette, are you happy to have your question answered in writing on this, as well?

Jennette Arnold (AM): Thank you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. Let me move to Jenny.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Thank you so much. I want to ask you some questions about undercover officers, Mr Mackey. I have been asking the Commissioner questions now since June and I finally got a letter on 23 October 2012 marked confidential and private. There was absolutely nothing private in there and absolutely nothing confidential. Basically, it was saying it could not answer certain questions of mine because of difficulties in exposing various practices and so on.

I just do not believe that some of my questions are not able to be answered by the MPS and I will give you an example. Under which European or UK human rights and privacy laws do British undercover police operate when they are in the UK, other parts of the EU, or outside of the EU? Surely, you can tell me which bits of law?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Do you mean you have the answer?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I can give you. Supervision of UK officer --

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Why then was I blocked for months on things like --

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know. Supervision of UK officers when they are working abroad is jointly managed by the relevant law enforcement agency in whichever country they are working and local judiciary in the country concerned.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Why could I not have that answer back in June?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): What is happening at the MPS that anything, when undercover officers are mentioned, that it is automatically blocked?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, that is not fair. I went into some considerable detail with you last time I sat before you in relation to undercover officers.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I think you will find that the detail was a little bit shaky at times. I will come to that.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): All right. Obviously, I was shaky then on some of the detail, but some of this area is restricted. It is restricted.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): You have just given me that answer in a meeting held in public and yet I could not have it back in June. I still have not had it apart from from you. A letter this week told me I could not have that answer.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): If you are comfortable, outside of here, I will take those issues away for you and find the ones that can be answered and I will get them back to you within seven days.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I have a list. I will give it to you. Thank you. This is a topical issue, but it does seem to me that there will be a lot of problems in the future presumably on this. You did say last week that criminal misconduct or any of the processes that would happen if officers engaged in criminal acts. You said that at the last meeting, but it is a matter of public record that Mark Kennedy, who was operating for the British police, did commit criminal acts in Germany in particular.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): You are asking me a level of detail. I am not sighted on individual operations that might have taken place overseas.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): My concern is that nobody knows what is going on or, if they do, they are certainly not telling us. Officers who are exposed in this way, I have some sympathy for, because of course they do not only work with domestic extremists, i.e. what I call environmental activists and you call domestic extremists, but at times they are working with gangs and organised crime.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Some very high-risk people.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Very, very tough. Very, very tough life, and I am very sympathetic, but I think the processes in the MPS are just not operating in a way that holds not only the officers themselves to account, but also the supervision of those officers.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): In relation to what has gone on around a particular deployment in Germany, for obvious reasons, I did refer last time to Operation Herne, the Directorate of Professional Standards work that is looking at all of these. I am just going to have to be very, very careful that I do not stray into areas that that might be looking at.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Let me ask again. Is any of that report going to be public?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I do not know until we finish it. I genuinely do not know. I do not know what will be in there and what the scope will be. There may be things that are perfectly acceptable to put in the public domain. There may be other parts of that, exactly for the reasons to which you have alluded around particular operations that cannot be.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): OK, will you come back and tell us as soon as you have seen that report and whether or not you can tell us anything about it.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): So you will report back on that report. Do you have any idea when it is going to come out?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It is going to be a long piece of work. As we discussed last time in terms of this, you have asked a number of questions that go back to the era of Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) and some of those. That started in 1968. There is a wealth of data and information to look through, so I am not going to commit to a timescale that I am not sure I can keep yet. That is why the scoping work, the range of work is going on.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Can you tell me then: since it started, presumably some information has come through; have you changed your processes?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): How can you be confident that those processes are any better than the previous processes?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): For a number of reasons.. One around learning the lessons around previous processes, but also the office of the Surveillance Commissioner now also, as part of their review of covert policing activity which takes place across police forces, looks at our use of covert human intelligence. There is an oversight process that will look at that and there is are lessons learned and a new guidance document that is there for how we run these.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): What is the MOPAC oversight on this? Are you getting any information? Are you getting any reports?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): In terms of specifically international deployment?

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): No, I was thinking about deployment within Britain.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Sorry, I missed the question.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I am more interested in deployment within Britain.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): It is an operational matter. It is not something that we would do.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): You do not have any oversight of it. Politically then, who has oversight of what the MPS is doing on this? We do not get the answers, so who is actually getting any answers from the MPS about what is going on?

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can I say: when the Mark Kennedy case came to light, the MPA agreed that it would have oversight. Given that MOPAC has taken over some of those functions, I would have thought that some of that oversight would have been dealt with.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Yes, as we have said previously, there will be oversights via generic oversights. What you are asking is whether there are any specific arrangements around this. Not to date. That does not mean that we will not develop that. We have a specific role in overseeing deployments in that the Chief Executive has to sign off any application to government for that, but I could not speak to specific arrangements in terms of oversight around this particular area of activity, though of course it will be part of our broader oversight role.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Sorry, you have to sign off what government?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): In terms of international deployments, under the scheme of delegation, the Chief Executive approves what is known as section 26 requests prior to seeking authorisation from the Home Secretary. We have a role around that, but not in terms of internal deployments.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I think Len might want to come in on foreign deployments, but I am just very concerned. You see, this is what we have been told again and again by the MPS. It happened with the phone hacking. We ask questions, which prove to be very good questions, and we are told again and again, "Do not worry about it. We have it sorted now. It is all under control. I cannot tell you about it, because it is restricted and confidential, but it is all all right." This is the response we get from the MPS. You must understand that some of us have run out of patience with that sort of, "Run away and play with different toys. The Met's fine".

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): No, and if that is the impression you have taken from it, that is not the intention at all. If you think there are people who are going to have oversight and look at individual deployments and whether they are yay or nay, that is not going to happen. The processes, absolutely. The systems with things like the Officer Surveillance Commissioner and how the authorisation works, those are the sorts of things you would expect to be in play. I would find it quite strange to bring in a list and say, "Here we go. We are deploying to the following ..." I cannot see how we could do that. The risks are far too high.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I have a lot of questions, actually, and it is very unfortunate as you have appeared to be so open that I cannot just go through the list right now. On the case that is coming up soon with the women, I have been told that the MPS thinks that it has to fight the case against the women because they are using public money. They have to fight it. They do not want to pay compensation and so on. It strikes me that there are times when you have to say, "We are really sorry. We know this happened." The women are not actually asking for much compensation. The legal advice that you get, I just wonder how sound it is in terms of losing face, losing credibility, and fighting a case that is going to cause an awful lot of embarrassment.

Again and again, we hear that you do not prosecute officers that have committed crimes, that you are prepared to let them resign rather than face -- we would rather let these officers resign than go through all the awful embarrassment and the cost of a court case and all that sort of thing, but here you are fighting women who appear to have a fantastic case and it is going to cause a lot of egg on face for the MPS.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Two points if I may on that. Firstly, you would expect I am not going to discuss legal tactics in here.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): No, but you might take that argument back to your senior management team.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I take your observation. The second point about people resigning, I cannot remember if it was in this forum or another one --

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It was in this meeting.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): It was in this forum. I apologise, Chair. Last meeting, you will remember we said everyone who is going to resign now the application comes to me.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): Now.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Well, Jenny, I understand your frustration, but I cannot answer for predecessors in terms of what they -- the systems in place now are, if someone wants to resign, the application comes to me.

Jenny Jones (Deputy Chair): I am glad.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): At various points during the week, I have a succession of people coming in with lists around requests. I allow very few.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): OK, thank you.

Len Duvall (AM): Very quickly, on the compensation issue of any compensation paid, look, you are making massive cuts to our services here in London. I hope that you are going to recover any monies that have to be paid, if they are paid eventually, from the owner of this or from the Association of Chief Police Officers Terrorism and Allied Matters (ACPO TAM) who were meant to be supervising these officers. I do not think the MPS should be paying for that and I hope it is not going to be further cuts. We need to follow that and MOPAC needs to be on top of this to make sure that it is giving that money back. That is its role.

On overseas deployments, not undercover deployments, but where we are commissioned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to do work in the overseas territories, former dependants, and such, there has been a recent case that was, I think, the Cayman Islands where one of our officers got themselves into difficulty, was sued, counter-sued. The MPS rightly supported that officer in dealing with the legal challenges he has faced. On the wider issues of that particular deployment, are there any lessons that the MPS is learning about the commissioning of overseas from the FCO, the terms of reference of how we are doing it or not doing it? That is all part of the problems around this legal case. What lessons are being learned and have they been taken on board? Is MOPAC supervising that, because that seems to be MOPAC territory, not just yours? You should be passing that to MOPAC saying, "Here we are. This has happened. What else has happened?" Has that happened, because I think the legal case is being concluded? I am not sure.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I can take that. Under section 26, MOPAC does have a role. Under the scheme of delegation, the Chief Executive has to approve all requests prior to seeking authorisation from the Home Secretary. There are three chief categories of deployment. One is when it fits with the government issuing a national security strategy, so that is providing policing assistance to specific countries. That is funded by the FCO. Where there is a direct international request from the MPS for assistance, skills, training, etc, for any investigation, the MPS would consider the case and its costs. Where the MPS has a stake or interest in a programme abroad, an international conference, best practice, etc, and officers are assigned to attend. We have to sign those off, before we get permission.

I am told that the volume this year has been very low. I have been told fewer than five. Bizarrely, I have not been told how many. I have just been told fewer than five, but we have very few numbers.

Len Duvall (AM): I think the issue is learning the lessons of what I think was a fiasco. Not a fiasco on our part. The officers that were involved did their jobs diligently, but in terms of the tasking, because it is not just the money from the FCO, they are commissioning you to do the investigation. When the MPS's reputation is caught up in murky other issues and agendas, that it is a problem, it seems to me, particularly in some of the areas around, whether it is money laundering, corruption, those issues.

If we have gone in to do an honest job and it comes back and there are ramifications and it ends up that we have spent money that we should not have had to spend, again I think that is a claim against the

FCO. Sorry, it is not the MPS, and the MPS has paid that money to that officer through those legal proceedings. Can someone tell us maybe in writing what those lessons learned are and will we, MOPAC, be recovering the money from the FCO? Maybe the police ought to think more carefully how - of course, you cannot say no - but how do you have some protection of our officers who go into those places to do a job, in terms of their integrity and the comeback that follows on afterwards?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): If I can pick up. Absolutely, I agree totally with the points you raise. I think just for clarity, that issue may still be live in the Cayman Islands.

Len Duvall (AM): Oh it is still live.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): I think. I am only going from a briefing I had a few weeks ago, so I think that might still be a live case. I think, if we can go to your general points, it is supported by the desire to see officers being deployed abroad being reduced. It is around saying, "What are the proper controls? What are the benefits for the people of London or the people of the UK? Is it about enhancing the reputation of the MPS?" In terms of learning lessons, these things sometimes have quite a long tail that you did not envisage when they first came. I think that is a point well made.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): In terms of criteria, the things that we would be looking at within MOPAC would be political sensitivity, high risk deployment and high cost. I think I can say with some confidence that, as a matter of principle, costs that we have incurred as a consequence of supporting or assisting other agencies and bodies we would always look to recover, so as not to detract from the service provided to London. What happened in this individual case, I do not know, but as a matter of principle we would.

Len Duvall (AM): My understanding on the individual case, it was no fault of the officer in the sense of being caught up in some of those issues. It is that we were dragged into the legal courts arising from the investigation. Therefore, I think there is full cost recovery from the FCO and it should not come out of the MPS's coffers in terms of that.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I think we would agree with you and we would absolutely --

Len Duvall (AM): Not when we are making the cuts on the level that we are doing. We would expect the Home Office to be supporting us and, if they are quiet, they should be exposed.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): I think we would agree with you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Thank you. I think we are over time now. I am going to have to ask Fiona: would you be happy to put your questions in writing and we can get a response?

Fiona Twycross (AM): Yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): It was questions about Operation Gemini and some of the issues that came out of that. Can I thank you both for your attendance this afternoon. It has been very helpful.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): Thank you very much, indeed.

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Thank you, Chair.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Members, can I just ask you to note the background to the Q&A session we have had today.

All: Agreed.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can we note the answers given.

All: Agreed.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can we note the summary list of actions.

All: Agreed.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Can we agree the proposed arrangements for the meetings of the future of the Committee set out in our work programme. Members will notice that we may still have to shift some items out depending on the agenda. Before we go after that, Andrew, the Local Policing Model and the Policing and Crime Plan, when will we have something in writing that this Committee can actually look at?

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): In terms of the Policing Model, clearly, after we have had the MOPAC challenge meeting, that is where we will expose and that will be available to colleagues.

In terms of the Policing and Crime Plan, I think the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has committed to have something with you in early November in advance of your next meeting in terms of structure and some of the contents so you can contribute to that. I think there was a letter today where you said that you wanted to consider it in your 17 January meeting.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): I think we want clarity over the letter because I think the letter states that we will have an early draft in November and then a draft in February. We are not quite sure what is meant by these various drafts. Perhaps some clarity outside the meeting would be useful.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We can clarify. The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime certainly wants to share with you iterative drafts so that you have an opportunity to contribute. I know that is his view.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is helpful and we will need some clarity before we formally formalise.

Andrew Morley (Interim Chief Executive, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime): We will respond to you.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Are members happy with that? For our next meeting in November, we will look at violence against women and girls.

All: Yes.

Roger Evans (AM): Just being clear about the next MOPAC challenge meeting, because some of us might be there.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Yes, when is it?

All: Next Tuesday morning.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): Lovely, and what time does it start, just for the public record?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): 10.00am.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): 10.00am here?

Craig Mackey (Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service): Yes.

Joanne McCartney (Chair): That is great. Thank you. Then the date of the next meeting is 15 November and I have no other business. Thank you, Members.