

Bromley Borough Commander's Newsletter



September 2015

Introduction

Good morning / afternoon. Welcome to the September issue of my monthly external newsletter. I want to use this issue as an opportunity to set out some of the challenges facing the Metropolitan Police Service in the next months and years. I feel this is necessary after some of the feedback I have received from you after the Crime Summit in September and last month's newsletter. Of course, I will also set out how we are doing in terms of making Bromley a safer Borough.

Operation and Crime Update

As you know, the MPS were set a four-year target to reduce crime across seven crime types by 20% by April 2016. We are now six months away from this date so I thought you would like an update on where we are. Overall, the MPS is currently at -18.7% which equates to 76,850 less victims of crime. In Bromley, we are closing the gap and are at -16.45 which means there are now 1931 fewer victims of crime than there were in the baseline year on 2011/12. I think this is testament to the great work that is done in partnership between the community, our partners and my police officers and staff.

In relation to the individual offence types, there is clearly some excellent news. Burglary is down by 27.6% (or 946 offences), criminal damage is at -8.7% (225 offences), robbery has reduced by 637 offences (-48.1%), theft from motor vehicle is down by 26.6% (556 offences) and theft from the person has reduced by 8.5%, which equates to 26 offences. Violence with injury offences have increased by 7.3% (138 offences) and theft of motor vehicle is up by 2.8% (21 offences) although the rise for this crime type is more significantly up in the last nine months. I'm pleased to say that our calls to Anti-Social behaviour have also reduced by 14.5%.

Also of note is that for emergency calls where we have a 15 minute target, we achieve this on almost 91% of occasions, despite the fact we are the largest geographical borough in London. We also reach 92.4% of our non-emergency calls within the 60 minute target.

None of this means that we are, or can be complacent. Some short-term increases in crime are challenging us and the number of calls we do respond to is still high. My officers are rolling out Met-Trace across a number of wards to tackle burglary, we are just embarking on our operational plans for Halloween / Bonfire night to impact on traditional ASB issues and we are just about to launch our annual response to the darker evenings when burglary increases. Operation Bumblebee has some tried and tested tactics that will balance crime prevention advice to householders with some targeted activity against known offenders.

Last week I held a Commendation ceremony where a number of police officers and members of the public received an award for their actions. The incidents that they dealt with included life saving interventions, superb investigations into complex criminal activity, problem-solving to address ASB on an estate and an armed incident. Of particular note was the incident last New Year's Eve in Petts Wood where several members of the public chased and caught a suspect who had just robbed a bank. Their bravery was outstanding and very worthy of recognition.



Bromley Borough Commander's Newsletter



September 2015

Challenges for the Metropolitan Police

The Commissioner has recently been talking publically about the challenges facing the MPS in light of expected cuts to our budget of between 25-40%. There has been some national publicity about the impact of this on a number of issues including the future of PCSO's, the number of police officers in London, how we provide public access services and the structure through which we deliver policing.

As I explained in the last newsletter, the Commissioner and Management Board are looking at what options there are to deliver the required budget savings, but no decisions have been made, despite any rumours you may have heard. In fact, the Commissioner has been consistently saying that no decisions will be made until we know the scale of the reduction which can't happen before December. It is clearly prudent and good practice to explore the possible impact and risk on a range of options before committing to any course of action. Consultation and communication will be key to any changes, both internally with our staff and externally with our communities and partners.

In the meantime, the Commissioner will continue to lobby to secure the best possible settlement for the MPS and for London from both the Home Office and the Mayor.

Operation Bumblebee

More than 5000 homes were burgled in London by thieves simply walking in through unlocked doors. The Bumblebee campaign material highlights this fact, and carries the reminder 'Always lock before you leave' while encouraging the public to visit crime prevention site more information and advice. Just one month before the clocks go back - traditionally a time of increased criminal activity - breakfast radio ads will target listeners in cars or at home, while digital displays will reach commuters at key underground connections.

The campaign focuses on locking the front door as a simple step for members of the public to take, which could have a dramatic impact on burglary numbers. The Met is advising Londoners to:

- Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
- Make sure UPVC doors are properly locked with a key.
- Make sure the side and/or back gate is locked.
- Lock your shed or garage.
- Make sure that any valuables are out of sight.
- Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home.
- Don't leave your car keys or ID documents near doors, windows or your letterbox.

While we see a rise in burglaries of this nature in autumn the overall number of burglaries continues to fall. While prevention is vital, the MPS also recognises the need to target known or suspected burglars as well and Operation Bumblebee will continue to investigate and pursue suspects and bring them before the courts.

Chris Hafford
Borough Commander



Bromley Borough Commander's Newsletter



September 2015

Contacting the police in Bromley

There are a number of ways that you can contact the police.

If a crime is currently taking place and you are in immediate danger, please always dial 999.

If you wish to contact the Metropolitan Police Service and it is not an emergency, please call our non-emergency number, 101. You can request a visit from a local officer within 48 hours via this number too.

Certain categories of crime or incidents committed in the London area can now be reported over the internet, as long as an urgent response is not required. Please visit the MPS website for further information – www.met.police.uk

You can also contact any of our Neighbourhood Policing Teams by telephone or email – visit the MPS website www.met.police.uk, type your postcode into the team finder and you'll be directed to your local team's webpage which contains their contact details.

In non-emergency situations you can visit any Front Counter:

- **Bromley Police Station**, High Street, Bromley, BR1 1ER has a front counter open 24 hours a day
- **Penge SNT base, Maple Road, Penge**, SE20 8RE is open:

Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) between 11 am - 7 pm (closed 3pm- 4pm).

- **West Wickham SNT base**, 9 High Street, West Wickham, BR4 0LP is open:

Monday and Thursday:	1pm - 4pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday:	10am - 1pm

There are also currently three Contact Points across the Borough. Contact points provide a convenient opportunity to speak to the local police face to face. They are an alternative to visiting a police station front counter for non urgent issues. These are:

- **Biggin Hill SNT base**, 192-194 Main Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3BB
- **Cray Valley SNT base**, 43 - 45 High Street, St Mary Cray, BR5 3NJ
- **Green Street Green SNT base**, 49 High Street, Green St Green, BR6 6BG

Their opening times are:

Wednesday and Thursday evenings:	7pm - 8pm
Saturday afternoons:	2pm - 3pm



Bromley Borough Commander's Newsletter



September 2015



A/Inspector Andy Buckley

Contact numbers for Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the North East Neighbourhood

Bickley	020 8721 2610
Bromley Town	020 8721 2859
Chislehurst	020 8721 2612
Mottingham & Chislehurst North	020 8721 2889
Plaistow & Sundridge	020 8721 2613



Inspector Ian Brown

Contact numbers for Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the South West Neighbourhood

Biggin Hill	020 8721 2820
Bromley Common & Keston	020 8721 2607
Darwin	020 8721 2603
Hayes & Coney Hall	020 8649 3548
West Wickham	020 8721 2608



Inspector Phyllis Rooney

Contact numbers for Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the North West Neighbourhood

Clock House	020 8721 2615
Copers Cope	020 8721 2772
Crystal Palace	020 8721 2604
Kelsey & Eden Park	020 8721 2616
Penge & Cator	020 8649 3541
Shortlands	020 8721 2614



Inspector Toby Noar

Contact numbers for Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the South East Neighbourhood

Chelsfield & Pratts Bottom	020 8721 2605
Cray Valley East	020 8284 8113
Cray Valley West	020 8721 2611
Farnborough & Crofton	020 8721 2606
Orpington	020 8721 2729
Petts Wood & Knoll	020 8721 2609

