

Camden Community Safety Partnership

Monthly Performance Report – August 2009

Background

This report has been produced to monitor the main Performance Indicators (PI's) of the Camden Community Safety Partnership. An explanation of crime types and the figures are included for context and further information¹. Data sources are listed at the end of the document.

Report produced by the Partnership Information Unit².

Performance Summary

The following table summarises the Community Safety Partnership's main performance indicators, targets and progress to date. The table also includes three of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) targets that relate to Camden.

There are no targets for 'total notifiable offences' - crimes measured by the Home Office.

Partnership Indicators	Baseline (2008/9 unless otherwise stated)	FYTD	Target	Change from baseline
Total Notifiable Offences	14,526	14,256	-	-2%
Most Serious Violent Crime	174	117	-4%	-33%
Serious Acquisitive Crime	2,630	2,582	-1.7%	-2%
Burglary in a Dwelling	749	786	-1.7%	5%
Robbery	409	436	-1%	7%
Theft From a Motor Vehicle	1,146	962	-1.4%	-16%
Theft Of a Motor Vehicle	326	398	-3.3%	22%
Reduce Crime in Camden Town (baseline = 2007/8)	1,374	1,144	-16.5%	-17%
Increase Number of Drug Users in Effective Treatment	1,557	1,595	+1%	2%

MPS Indicators	Previous FYTD (April - 2nd Aug)	FYTD	Target	% Change
Gun Enabled Crime*	16	37	0%	131%
Knife Enabled Crime*	130	153	-5%	18%
Serious Youth Violence**	55	75	-4%	36%

Note: The baseline year is 2008/9 with the exception of 'Reduce Crime in Camden Town', for which the baseline is 2007/8; 'year to date' figures are financial year to date, i.e. since April 2009.

¹ Camden Community Safety Partnership

² Contact Jon Paris for further information. Email: Jon.paris@met.police.uk

Camden Community Safety Partnership

Comment and further information

Serious Acquisitive Crime

At present, a 2% reduction in the number of serious acquisitive crime offences (which includes domestic burglary, robbery, theft of motor vehicle and theft from motor vehicle offences) can be seen compared to the number of offences recorded in the same period in 2008. Serious acquisitive crime also features in the Camden's Local Area Agreement (LAA) with a target of seeing a 3% reduction in the number of offences each year from the baseline year, 2007/2008. Taking this into account, a reduction of almost 31% can be recorded when comparing the number of offences from April to August this year compared with the number of offences in the baseline year. The large 26% reduction in offences seen over 08/09 means seeing a year-on-year reduction across this financial year will continue to be a challenge.

Burglary

The 5% increase in numbers of burglaries is believed to be linked to a number of Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs) that are out and offending at present. These few individuals are responsible for a high proportion of the burglaries that have been committed. NW3 and NW5 are hotspot areas. Known offenders have been identified and are being targeted by the police through Operation Watcher. The Burglary Working Group is looking at several initiatives to tackle the increase as well as central tasking to this crime in the key locations.

Robbery

The 7% increase in robbery relates to a total of twenty-seven more offences this year than there had been in the same time period last year. Figures from May 09 show that there was an 11% increase in the number offences compared to last year, so a reduction in this increase is already being seen.

The summer months usually see a rise in robbery offences and this year was no exception. However, between April and August 2008 there was a significant 45% reduction on the number of offences seen in the same time period in 2007. Therefore achieving a further reduction on this is challenging, but all is being done to see it happen. Plans are already in place for an operation around the next usual rise in robbery offences over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period. This operation was very successful in 2008 and it is hoped that similar successes will be seen this year.

Theft of a motor vehicle

There has been a 22% increase in theft of motor vehicles. It is believed that the increase is due to a significant increase in thefts of scooters and mopeds by young people. However, performance figures indicate that the increase has slowed. Actions being taken to address this increase are as follows: -

- Locks and chains are being distributed to people living and working in Camden,
- Hotspot areas are being leafleted with advice and information.
- Additional police patrols from the response team are targeting young people on mopeds and scooters.
- Secure railings, initially in hotspot locations, are being installed.
- All young people involved in vehicle crime will be tracked. Home visits are being planned to all those who have been arrested for taking and driving a vehicle away and/or theft. These visits will be followed up with visits from Anti Social Behaviour Officers to inform parents of tenancy risks.

Camden Community Safety Partnership

Serious Youth Violence

The 36% increase in crimes categorised as 'serious youth violence' relates to twenty additional offences this year than in the same time period last year. It must also be noted that serious youth violence is defined as any offence of most serious violence, assault with injury and/or weapon enabled crime where the victim is aged between 1 and 19. This measure counts the number of victims of offences, rather than the number of offences.

Gun Crime

Although it would appear that gun enabled crimes have increased by 131%, the number of crimes remains small and the increase relates to there having been twenty-one more offences this year than there were in the same time period last year. It should also be noted that this crime category has included offences where a gun was 'threatened but not seen' - where a gun was intimated and the victim convinced of its presence. The crime definition also incorporates the use of both real and fake firearms and air weapons. An error in the recording of gun enabled crimes across 2008/2009 has been discovered and has meant that the figures recorded last year are incorrect and are too low. Therefore, instead of an increase, it is likely that the number of offences this year is actually similar to the amount seen last year.

Knife Crime

Again, although there is an 18% increase in knife enabled crimes, the numbers are small and the increase represents twenty-three more offences than during the same time period last year. Also, similar to the gun enabled crime definition, the knife enabled crime definition includes offences where a knife was 'threatened but not seen'

Ongoing work around gun and knife crime and serious youth violence

Many of the tactics employed to reduce these crime types have only been in place for a short period of time and we are yet to see the effects of them. The strategy for dealing with serious youth violence is being benchmarked against an external framework and any recommendations will be implemented. Projects that are expected to impact are: -

- A serious youth violence multi agency group has been established and is cross referencing names with Camden's Youth Offending Service (YOS), the Youth Inclusion Support Panels (YISPs) and the Borough Information Unit (BIU, the Camden Police intelligence team) to get a priority list of names of known gang members and those involved in serious youth violence. Those identified will be offered a range of services to tackle this behaviour and where necessary we will enforce against them.
- A mandatory six session knife crime programme for all young people that have committed a knife enabled offence will begin in October which should impact on the increase in knife enabled offences.
- Camden has recently been successful in securing funding for Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Co-ordinator and Worker posts, which will enable more intensive targeted work with young people involved in or at the margins of gang activity.

Camden Community Safety Partnership

Data Sources

Partnership Indicators	Data Source
Total Notifiable Offences	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Most Serious Violent Crime	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Serious Acquisitive Crime	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Burglary in a Dwelling	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Robbery	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Theft From a Motor Vehicle	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Theft Of a Motor Vehicle	iQuanta – Home Office Website
Reduce Crime in Camden Town	MPS Crime Reporting Information System (CRIS)
Increase Number of Drug Users in Effective Treatment	National Drug Treatment Monitoring System
Gun Enabled Crime	MPS Performance Information Bureau (Monthly Crime Report, Gun Crime Report)
Knife Enabled Crime	MPS Performance Information Bureau (Monthly Crime Report, Knife Crime Report)
Serious Youth Violence	MPS Performance Information Bureau (MPS Weekly TP/Borough Scorecard)