# GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE & CRIME PANEL

Date: 19th March 2025

Subject: Prevention and Deterrence (Neighbourhood Policing)

Report of: Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) Matt Boyle

## Purpose of Report

This report provides an update on the progress of Greater Manchester Police's (GMP) Neighbourhood Policing Model, focusing on prevention and deterrence. It highlights key achievements, crime trends and strategic developments in strengthening local policing.

## Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Police, Fire and Crime Panel notes the progress to date and receives regular progress updates as and when required.

## Contact Officers

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## Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

The Sustainability Decision Support Tool assesses the Neighbourhood Policing Model's impact on equality, carbon footprint and sustainability. The model promotes inclusivity through community engagement and problem-solving approaches, aligning with the Equality Act. Increased use of digital engagement reduces the carbon footprint of traditional outreach, while investment in modern infrastructure and technology enhances long-term sustainability. Patrol strategies balance visibility with fuel efficiency, supporting GMP's environmental commitments. Overall, the model delivers social value while minimising environmental impact.

## Risk Management

GMP mitigates risks to public safety and operational effectiveness through intelligence-led policing, data-driven decision-making and strong governance. Continuous monitoring ensures prevention strategies remain adaptable to emerging challenges.

## Legal Considerations

All policing activities comply with legislation such as the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE), the Human Rights Act and the Equality Act. Adhering to legal and ethical standards safeguards public trust and accountability.

## Financial Consequences – Revenue

Sustained revenue funding supports officer salaries, training and operations. Investment in prevention reduces long-term costs by easing demand on emergency services and the criminal justice system.

## Financial Consequences – Capital

Capital investment in infrastructure, technology, and equipment enhances crime prevention and community engagement. Modernisation ensures an efficient, future-proof policing model.

## Number of attachments to the report:

None

# 1. Introduction/Background

In March 2023, GMP introduced a revised Neighbourhood Policing Model to strengthen community-based policing, focusing on prevention, deterrence and problem-solving. This followed extensive stakeholder engagement and a commitment from the Chief Constable to reduce crime, harm and anti-social behaviour (ASB) through proactive neighbourhood policing.

The model is built around three core pillars:

1. **Engaging Communities** – Strengthening public trust through visible policing, digital engagement and local partnerships.

2. **Problem-Solving and Prevention** – Addressing long-term issues using data-driven policing and multi-agency collaboration.

3. **Targeting Activity** – Focussed neighbourhood and partnership activity to tackle high-harm offenders and crime hotspots.

Since implementation, GMP has introduced a Neighbourhood Policing Performance Management Framework and enhanced governance structures to track progress. Key initiatives such as Operation Vulcan, Bee in the Loop (BITL), and Neighbourhood Prevention Hubs have driven improvements in crime reduction and community engagement.

# 2. Detail

Crime Reduction

Through the implementation of neighbourhood crime teams (NCT), targeted operations and proactive policing, GMP has achieved significant reductions in crime. Neighbourhood crime has fallen by 17% over the past year, with notable decreases in residential burglary (-11.3%) and theft from persons (-28.2%). This success is attributed to intelligence-led policing and close partnerships with the community.

Public Engagement

Strong community relationships are the foundation of effective policing. GMP has enhanced public engagement through digital platforms and direct interaction. With over 32,500 subscribers to the BITL platform, and over 2,000 community engagement events held in recent months, public trust and confidence continues to grow.

## Operational Improvements

To support frontline officers and improve service delivery, GMP has strengthened its governance structures and performance management frameworks. New measures have been implemented to monitor neighbourhood policing effectiveness, leading to more efficient resource allocation and improved crime detection rates.

## Community Engagement Initiatives

Building trust with the public is at the centre of neighbourhood policing. GMP has implemented several initiatives to enhance communication and strengthen relationships with local communities.

### BITL

BITL is a digital messaging system designed to improve engagement with residents. It allows the public to receive real-time updates on crime trends and safety advice, while also providing a direct channel for intelligence sharing with GMP.

### Volunteer Police Cadets & Mini Police

These youth engagement programs give young people the opportunity to learn about policing, participate in community service and develop leadership skills. They also help bridge the gap between young people and law enforcement, fostering positive relationships.

### Community Policing Events

GMP regularly holds public meetings, crime prevention workshops and school visits to engage with communities. These events provide a forum for residents to voice concerns, receive crime prevention advice and work alongside the police to address local issues.

The Force has recently started to produce a monthly 'Neighbourhood Newsletter' for each district, which is shared across elected members and local authorities (LA). This newsletter showcases the activities of neighbourhood teams.

### Crime Prevention Strategies

Preventing crime before it occurs is a key focus for GMP. Through intelligence-led operations and collaborative initiatives, officers work to disrupt criminal activity and improve public safety.

### High-Visibility Patrols

There are increased patrols in key areas help deter crime and provide reassurance to the public. Officers are deployed strategically based on crime data, ensuring an effective response to emerging trends.

*Targeted Operations*

Multi-agency operations focus on reducing specific crimes such as burglary, vehicle crime, and drug-related offences. Recent efforts have resulted in the dismantling of organised crime groups and the recovery of stolen property.

*Community-Based Problem-Solving*

GMP works closely with local councils, businesses, and residents to develop long-term solutions to crime. This includes improving street lighting, installing CCTV and introducing youth diversion programs to prevent reoffending.

# 3. Next steps

GMP is committed to continuous improvement in neighbourhood policing. In the coming months, key areas of focus include:

- Review and development of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.
- Further development of the Neighbourhood Performance Framework.
- Expanding community engagement initiatives to reach a broader audience.
- Strengthening intelligence-sharing partnerships with LA and community groups.
- Ongoing analysis and response to emerging crime trends.
- Strengthening partnerships with LA and community groups.

# 4. Conclusion

Neighbourhood policing remains a priority for GMP, with a focus on reducing crime, enhancing public trust and delivering a high standard of service. By working collaboratively with communities and partners, GMP will continue to build on its successes and create safer neighbourhoods for all residents.

Significant progress has been made in reducing crime, increasing public engagement and improving neighbourhood policing effectiveness. Continued focus on prevention, problem-solving and collaboration will ensure sustainable improvements in community safety.