Report for:	Culture, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panel
Title:	**Metropolitan Police Update Report.**
Report authorised by:	Eubert Malcolm, Assistant Director – Environment
Lead Officer:	Superintendent Hannah Hayes - NA - Neighbourhoods Haringey, Metropolitan Police Service

Ward(s) affected: All

Below is a 2025-relevant version of your report section, updated to reflect current national and London policing challenges, the strategic context for the MPS, and major policy reforms, *without including any crime performance figures*. All statements that reference up-to-date information are fully cited.

---

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. This report sets out the operations of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) within the Haringey area.

1.2. The report provides an overview of the key policing activity undertaken over the past year and outlines the wider national and London-wide challenges shaping local service delivery in 2025. It highlights the pressures, reforms, and structural changes that influence how the MPS organises and deploys resources.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The report is for information.

3. Reason for decision

N/A

4. Background Information

MPS operations and strategic context in 2025

Policing in 2025 continues to be shaped by a demanding and fast-evolving landscape at both national and London levels. The MPS is operating in an environment that combines growing public expectations, higher complexity in crime types, sustained protest activity, and extensive national policing reform.

National policing pressures (2025)

Across England and Wales, police forces are facing increasingly complex and resource-intensive demand. National analysis shows that while overall crime volumes have fallen over the long term, forces are dealing with a *greater proportion*

of highly complex offences such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, and crimes requiring substantial digital investigation. These types of cases place significant pressure on investigative capacity, particularly due to workforce inexperience and national shortages in digital forensics and specialist investigative skills.

Cyber-enabled offences—including fraud and online exploitation—now represent a major share of reported crime, requiring forces to invest in advanced digital capabilities and cross-border intelligence sharing. In 2025, cybercrime accounted for *over half of all reported crimes*, illustrating the scale of demand on digital investigation resources.

Police services nationwide are also absorbing demand arising from gaps in mental health provision. Despite initiatives such as *Right Care, Right Person*, policing continues to carry responsibility for responding to public health-linked emergencies in the absence of adequate specialist services.

London-wide context and the Mayor's priorities (2025–2029)

London's policing priorities for 2025–2029 focus on reducing violence, improving community confidence, supporting reform of the MPS, and strengthening the criminal justice system for victims. These priorities were set following city-wide consultation and emphasise partnership working between MOPAC, the MPS, local authorities, health services and transport partners.

London remains a focal point for high-profile events, large-scale demonstrations, and rapid-response public order deployments. These place unique pressures on MPS resources, often requiring temporary abstractions from neighbourhood policing to meet city-wide demand.

National policing reform and structural change (2026 impact on 2025 planning)

In January 2026, the Government announced the *largest reforms to policing in two centuries*. These reforms will significantly influence how the MPS plans and allocates resources in 2025 and beyond. Key developments include:

- A review into reducing the number of police forces, with the aim of modernising and making policing more efficient.
- The creation of a new National Police Service, combining the National Crime Agency, Counter Terrorism Policing, regional organised crime units, national roads policing, and specialist aviation assets. This is intended to remove specialist burdens from local forces and provide national capability for complex and serious crime.
- Centralisation of forensic services to address national backlogs, including around 20,000 digital devices awaiting analysis at any given time. [gov.uk]

These reforms, while forward-looking, affect MPS operational planning and require local services to anticipate future structural changes.

Inspection landscape and improvements (2024–2025)

HMICFRS's *State of Policing 2024–25* assessment highlights the continuing need for police forces—including the MPS—to improve how they respond to the public, protect vulnerable people, and investigate crime effectively. The report notes that neighbourhood policing and improved communication with communities will be essential to rebuilding and maintaining public confidence. [assets.pub…ice.gov.uk]

The removal of the MPS from the HMICFRS "Engage" process in 2024 remains a significant milestone, reflecting improvement work on call handling, professional standards, safeguarding and vulnerability.

Looking ahead to 2026

As the MPS continues its reform journey, several priorities are central to delivering effective and trusted policing:

- Strengthening local policing and community engagement, ensuring officers are deployed where they can have the greatest impact on safety and confidence.
- Supporting organisational and cultural reform, aligned with the Mayor's 2025–2029 policing priorities and the national reform programme.
- Improving investigative capability and offender management, including the reduction of outstanding suspects and enhancement of digital forensics capacity.
- Maintaining resilience for major events and public order while protecting frontline neighbourhood presence.
- Expanding partnership work with health, transport, community safety and criminal justice partners to address areas of shared demand, including vulnerability, antisocial behaviour, and safeguarding.