

# ***Manchester City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team Newsletter***

***October 2024***

## **Useful Phone numbers:**

*Emergency – 999*

*Non-urgent – 101*

*Crimestoppers – 0800 555 111*



## ***Message from Superintendent, Nicola Williams***

Superintendent Nicola Williams October 2024

Our work as a dedicated Neighbourhood Team across the City to support our communities, to get to victims quickly, prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and keep people safe continues. Over the past month, I have seen many examples of hard work, commitment and joint working with our partners, to come together to listen to and respond to the needs of our communities, we want all who frequent our city to be and to feel safe and know that the Police are there for them.

During October we held the Piccadilly ward Partner and Community Together meeting (PACT). PACT meetings will be held bi-monthly per city centre ward, October was Piccadilly, 11<sup>th</sup> November we have the Deansgate ward PACT and then in December we will return to Piccadilly and so on. GMP, MCC and CityCo presented at the meeting informing attendees what we are doing in Manchester city centre to work together to keep people safe and support all who live, work, study and visit our city to thrive and enjoy all Manchester has to offer. We welcome all members of our communities to attend the meetings, this is an opportunity to speak with our teams, express your views, concerns, ideas and tell us what you would like to see the partnership doing. The meeting was attended by local residents, business owners, people who work in the city and one of our Consular Generals. Following the police and partner inputs, attendees were split into groups for further discussions and asked to come up with their top three priorities that you the community would like a partnership focus on, we then came together for questions and agreed on the following:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Dangerous use of E bikes, scooters, cycles, riding on the pavement
- Rough sleeping and littering

continued next page

## ***Message from Superintendent, Nicola Williams***

Our team has prioritised these areas to respond to the needs of you the community and you will see updates further on in our newsletter of work completed by the teams to address the above, in particular I would like to highlight our joint working with GMP's Specialist Operations Unit to tackle the dangerous use of E Bikes, scooters and cycles, we have a number of further operations planned to grip this problem and do all we can to prevent ASB.

October saw Safer Business Action Week culminating with a walk around with Deputy Mayor Kate Green, we visited many of our retailers throughout the city engaging, listening to their needs and celebrating the good work following the implementation of Operation Vendition in June 2024 which I have previously written about, we continue to see reductions in theft and ASB in our commercial sector.

The 8<sup>th</sup> November saw the Christmas markets open, Inspector Kam Hare and I attended a joint briefing with one of the market managers and Show Sec security to engage and offer reassurance of police support for the duration of the markets, Kam and I then went on to speak to retailers, 80% of who's businesses are located within a 30 mile radius of Manchester, so a real opportunity for local retailers to sell their products to those attending our vibrant markets.

Once again I recognise there is more to do, my senior colleagues and I are committed to ensuring our communities have a senior team that is receptive and engaging with local issues of community safety that are important to you. Below you will see crime prevention advice and updates from your communities. Thank you for all your support and I hope that we can continue to make the city a safe place.

## City Centre Neighbourhood Crime update – October 2024

From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>, Deansgate Ward and Piccadilly Ward showed the following offending:

### Highest Offending in Deansgate Ward

**Commercial – 64 Public Order, 107 Violence Offences, 123 Shoplifting, 86 Theft from Person Offences**

**Castlefield – 9 Violence Offences, 6 Vehicle Offences**

**Southern Gateway – 55 Violence Offences, 33 Other Theft Offences, 26 Public Order, 43 Theft from Person Offences, 24 Public Order Offences**

### Highest Offending in Piccadilly Ward

**Northern Quarter – 29 Violence Offences, 28 Theft From Person, 15 Public Order Offences**

**Piccadilly Gardens – 48 Violence Offences, 36 Public Order, 43 Possession of Drugs, 48 Theft from Person offences**

**The Village – 64 Violence Offences, 34 Theft From Person, 36 Other Theft Offences, 17 Public Order Offences**

**Chinatown – 12 Violence Offences, 8 Theft From Person Offences, 10 All Other Theft Offences**

**Piccadilly Trading Estate – 12 Vehicle Offences, 15 All Other Theft Offences, 38 Theft From Person**



## City Centre Neighbourhood Crime update – October 2024

### Violence with and without Injury

**345 Crimes**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 345 Violence with and without injury crimes recorded.*

### Theft from Person (TFP)

**286 Crimes**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 286 Theft From Person crimes recorded.*

### All Other Theft Offences

**203**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 203 All other Theft Offences recorded.*

### Public Order Offences

**170**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 170 Public Order Offences recorded.*



### Shoplifting

**156**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 156 Shoplifting crimes recorded.*



### Vehicle Offences

**79**

*From October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> there were 79 Vehicle crimes recorded.*



## City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Sergeants updates/good news

### ***PS Sharon Bryant –Northern Quarter & Piccadilly Trading Estate NPT***

NQ – Good community intelligence has led to positive action around Anti-Social Behaviour including drug dealing. Suspect currently on bail for offences related to the intelligence provided. Local NBO PC McKenzie is conducting an Environment Visual Audit with partners around the Smithfield Estate 01/11/24 to identify and address local issues.

Trading Estate – NBO's PC Lorne and Jackman are engaging with community members within Piccadilly East to encourage members of the community to report crime, register with Bee in the Loop and to set up community Neighbourhood Watch groups following interest at the Police and Communities Together meeting.

Village – Following reports of a burglary, theft of domestic pet and cruelty towards birds. **Andrew Stonier was arrested and charged with taking a dog and causing unnecessary suffering to a protected animal he appeared in court 31/10/24 and was given a suspended custodial sentence, suspended for 18 months and a Criminal Behaviour Order prohibiting him from entering Manchester City Centre and from touching or handling any wild or domestic animal without expressed permission. Excellent work from the NBO's**

### ***PS Zac Campbell – NPT Commercial, Castlefield & Southern Gateway***

Southern Gateway – Officers dedicated to the Southern gateway area are utilising a range of covert and pro-active policing deployments in order to respond to theft from person and theft from motor vehicles across the area. We would like to remind the public to be aware of pick pockets operating in the area by being aware of your belonging and ensuring they are not within easy reach of any potential offenders. We encourage those using their mobile phones within this area to be aware of their surroundings and let officers know of any suspicious activity within the locality.

Officers continue to patrol the car parks located within the southern gateway as we robustly tackle all vehicle offences and reduce the opportunities for offending. We encourage members of the public to keep personal belongings out of sight within parked vehicles and all vehicles locked and secure when not with them.

Castlefield – We continue to work with local stakeholders in the area to share our joint understanding of issues facing residents and businesses. Neighbourhood officers have been overtly patrolling the beat in order to reduce anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance.

Operation custodian continues to give passing attention to anti-social vehicle use in the area of an evening and into the night, we encourage all residents to share any concerns with their local neighbourhood team for us to act.

## City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Sergeants updates/good news

### **PS Cara Delamore – NPT The Village & Chinatown**

**Village** - Officers are continuing to police the village in the run up to Christmas, they have currently arrested one male who has been causing issues in and around the area and are looking at applying for a CBO.

**China Town** – Area NBO's have been having monthly meeting to discuss ongoing issues in the area and to also discuss plans going forward. Officers are also continuing to police around hot spots regarding aggressive begging.

**PS Stu Worthington** – The last month has seen a busy period for the Licensing team in Manchester City Centre. This mainly centres around Manchester City's high profile Champions League games and Manchester United's Europa League games, with preparations and licensed visits taking place to ensure that the city centre pubs and clubs are fully aware of the size of the crowds coming to the centre and what measures we want them to take. There was also the preparation for and the undertaking of the Operation to ensure that the MTV European Music Awards was a success.

We also continue our work sending the message around personal safety when out enjoying the city's nighttime economy. This ranges from the national "Ask for Angela" scheme to messages and proactive work around people having their belongings stolen from them i.e. mobile telephones

As the days and nights get colder, the Street Engagement Team also are assisting colleagues from Manchester City Council in offering assistance to as many members of the homeless / rough sleepers community as possible.

## **OPERATION VULCAN updates**

### **Vulcan Piccadilly October Highlights**

Although the Christmas Markets are started to take shape, Op Vulcan has continued their pursuit to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in: Piccadilly Gardens.

#### **Octobers highlights**

Arrests – 36.

Warrants executed – 5.

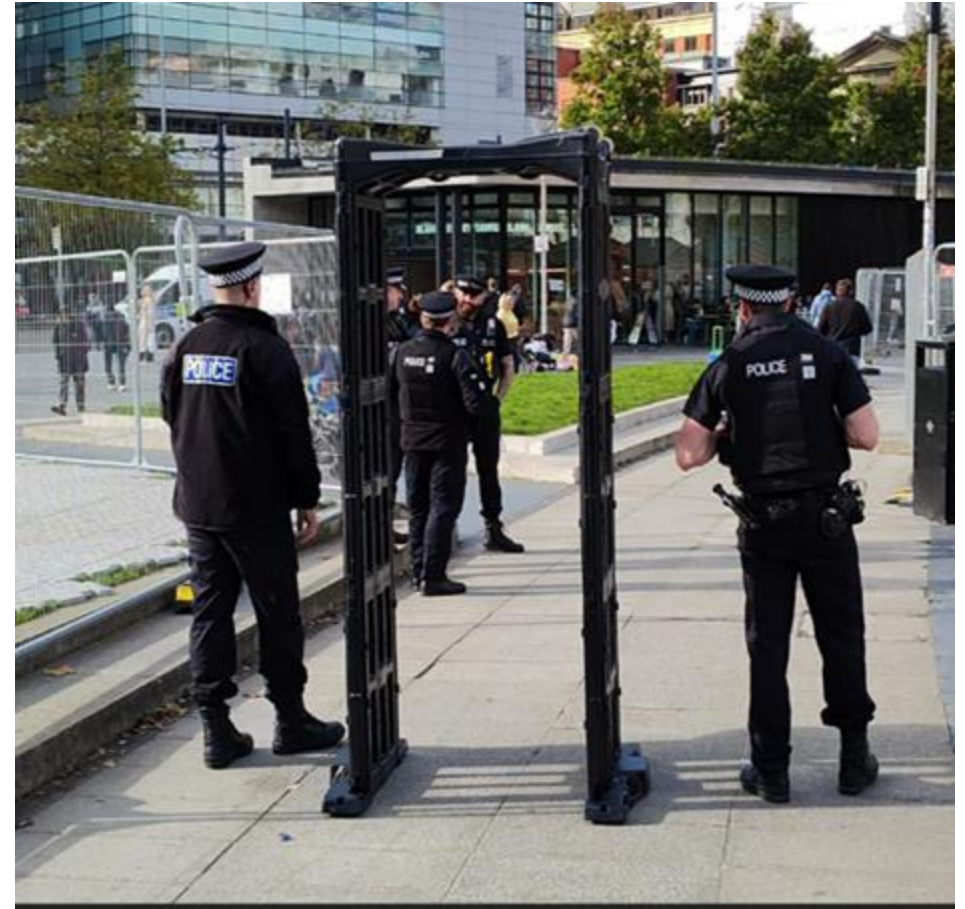
Vulnerable people referred for support – 17.

Stop Searches – 75

#### **Knife Arch Operation**

Operation Vulcan Officers carried out a joint Operation along with Greater Manchester Police's Transport Unit. The operation saw the team interacting with members of the public providing reassurance. A knife arch was set up as a visible deterrent to anyone carrying or thinking of carrying a weapon.

Officers carried out several stop searches to identify and although no weapons were found they did arrest one individual for a drug offence.





## **OPERATION VULCAN updates**

### **Joint Visits**

During October, Op Vulcan and Trading Standards conducted several Joint visits in the Piccadilly area. This target action resulted in thousands of vapes being seized. These vapes were not regulated for use in the UK and could be considered dangerous due to the levels of nicotine they contain.



## ***OPERATION VULCAN updates***

### **Vulcan Network October Highlights**

Op Vulcan Network and their embedded partners conducted 5 joint operations within Piccadilly and Victoria Station.

These deployments resulted in a total of 12 arrests for various offences including:

Immigration offences - 1

Breach of Bail offences - 2

Possession of Weapons - 1

Wanted persons – 6

Kidnap – 1

Drunk & Disorderly – 1

The team also conducted a number of stops searches which again resulted in a number of seizures to include, class A and B drugs and one bladed article.

- Stop Searches – 45
- Stop Accounts - 78
- Positive Stop Search – 18
- Passenger Engagements / checks – 4600+
- Revenue fines (conducted by partners only) - 145

## ***City Centre Neighbourhood Policing - STREET ENGAGEMENT TEAM***



Partner Relations better than ever!... Mustard Tree (HUB partners) are celebrating 30 years of supporting the community this year and Street Engagement Team staff were happy to attend their fund raiser, as were other prominent members of GMP.



Officers from the street engagement team have assisted staff at Longsight district centre which has had issues for a couple of years with rough sleepers at the door. Prolonged engagement and some positive action has assisted staff to feel safe again and clear the front.



## Greater Manchester Police – OP Mosedale

One weekend in October officers from [GMP Transport Unit](#) and Immigration Enforcement have been taking part in Operation Mosedale, in Manchester City Centre.

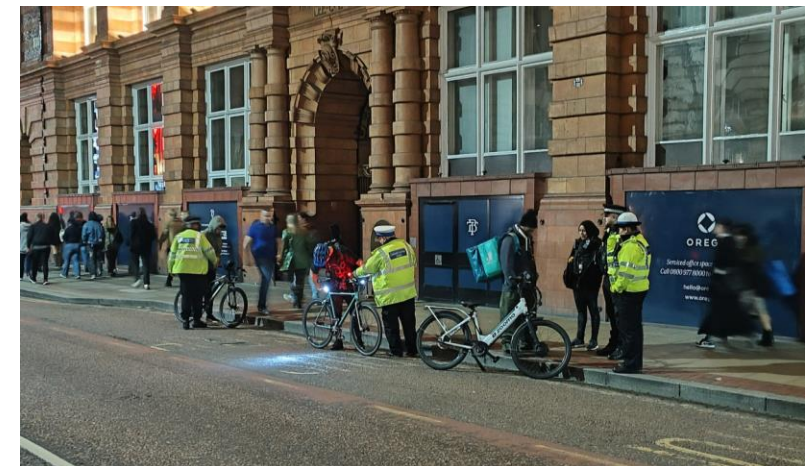
Operation Mosedale is a Home Office backed strategy to detect and deter Organised Immigration Crime, where organised gangs are exploiting illegal migrants, enforcing the use of false documentation to facilitate illegal working.

As part of this operation, we worked closely with the City Centre Neighbourhood Team and [GMP Traffic PCSO](#), to also provide road safety advice to those not engaged in such exploitation.

Over the weekend we have engaged with over 100 pedal cyclists, giving out road safety advice and bike lights to those without. We arrested 11 people for offences relating to the operation. Seized 15 pedal cycles from riders which were suspected to be non-conforming to the Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycle legislation and issued various Traffic Offence Reports to riders for failing to adhere to road traffic signs (red lights), failing to stop when requested, and dangerous / careless cycling.

Greater Manchester Police are committed to ensuring safer roads for everyone by focusing on education, enforcement, and community collaboration.

Operations such as these are one of the many ways GMP's Safer Transport Team aim to achieve this.





## City Centre Neighbourhood Policing - Business Liason Officer update

### PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS:

#### • Business Crime Reduction Partnership, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 @ 11am, Arndale Centre

The monthly BCRP meeting will again be taking place at the Arndale and will include a briefing from our Retail Crime Team and CityCo to retail partners concerning ongoing concerns/issues that affect the retail sector. This will include the distribution of our city centre Top 10 Offenders list and provide partners with targeted intelligence of who to look out for. Good work and arrests will be showcased and partners offered an opportunity to discuss any issues they are having at their businesses.

#### • NBCS Tactical Meeting, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November & Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024 @ 2pm, on Teams

There will be two more meetings in November for the NBCS. These meetings have been taking place over Teams every two weeks for the past few months and is similar to the BCRP in structure. This is a chance for the Retail Crime Team to share prolific offenders and discuss issues that partner agencies that are members of NBCS are facing.

#### • ABID Security Group, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 @ 1pm – CityCo Office

Partners from the Hotels and Accommodation sector meet once again in November to discuss crime and anti-social behaviour, and how it has affected the sector in the city centre across the past month. This meeting includes a statistics update from GMP, allowing the partnership to analyse any trends so that they can be acted upon. Much like the other partnership meetings, partners are given free reign to raise any issues they are facing and ask GMP for advice on what can be done about those issues. CityCo will also raise any issues that have been reported to them.

This month, there will be a specific focus on OPERATION MAKESAFE, which the training for has been rolled out to hotels across the district. Awareness will be raised by GMP in relation to County Lines Intensification Week, which commences the week beginning the 25<sup>th</sup> of November and partners will be asked if they would like any further/refresher training from us during this week. The training focuses on giving partner agencies the tools to be able to spot when a child is being exploited, either sexually or criminally, and properly report this to the police. It raises the awareness of these issues, as often, hotels are used as locations for organised crime groups to exploit young people and that raised knowledge of the problem will lead to more reporting, and more vulnerable people safeguarded from harm.

#### • Betwatch, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November @ 10am – On Teams

Betwatch is an initiative that allows businesses from the betting/gambling industry to discuss problem offenders and trends of note that affect their business. Unfortunately, these types of premises suffer a high level of anti-social behaviour and problematic behaviour from members of the public. This meeting was first scheduled for much later in the month, but some recent intelligence has been raised on a particular offender that has seemingly targeted multiple businesses and companies across the Greater Manchester area. The decision was therefore made to bring the meeting forward so that the offender can be properly discussed at an early stage, and plans put in place to help minimise the negative impact this person is having on the partnership as a whole.

## ***Deputy mayor out on patrol***

The Deputy Mayor joined officers for a patrol of Manchester city centre on Friday 18th October, to view the continued positive partnership between multiple agencies to tackle retail crime.

The walkabout came at the conclusion of Safer Business Action (SaBA) week, which saw multiple officers deployed across the entirety of Greater Manchester to take part in work tackling retail crime.

Kate Green, Deputy Mayor for Policing, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire, was joined by Superintendent Nicola Williams for the walkabout, in addition to PC Luke Ellwood, the local business liaison officer.

Numerous retailers were visited across the city centre, with managers and shop workers detailing issues they have had, their work with officers in identifying the individuals, and how GMP can further assist them going forward. This includes drop-in sessions with stores, proactive patrolling, and arrests of outstanding wanted offenders.

Within the city centre, officers regularly work with stores to identify offenders and ensure the appropriate action is taken. This can include arrests, charges, Criminal Behaviour Orders, imprisonment and the use of out of court disposals.

Officers are also keen to help vulnerable people – and their work also includes working with charities and the council, to signpost them to services including charities and food banks. The work has seen stores see a marked reduction in certain offences, with stores seeing the benefit of the multi-agency approach to the issue.





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## **City Centre Neighbourhood Policing - Community PACT meeting**

The City Centre Piccadilly Ward PACT - Partners and Communities Together meeting was held in October in the City Centre. The Name PACT is given to an initiative designed to draw on all members of the Community to identify and tackle local issues, this is done by having a regular meeting to discuss any issues with your local Neighbourhood Policing Team and Partners.

Supt Nicola Williams - The City Centre District Commander said "You can have a real say in local policing issues and priorities, we will aspire to improve the quality of life in the City Centre to solve community problems alongside you, our community. Our Partners from Manchester Centre Council Neighbourhood Team and ASBAT Anti-Social Behaviour Team also gave inputs in how to report issues.

Tonight, we discussed all concerns and issues raised from the Community, then we collectively decided on 3 Key Priorities to focus on as a PACT and Problems solve these together.

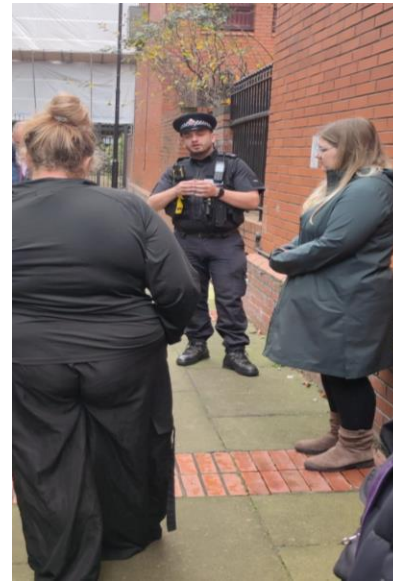
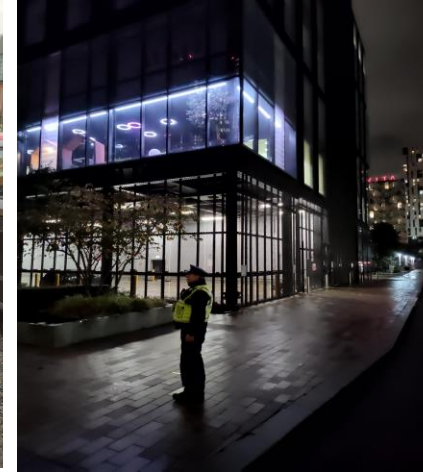
- 1, ASB - Anti Social Behaviour
- 2, Dangerous use of E Bike, Scooters, Cycles – Riding on pavement
- 3, Rough Sleeping, Littering, ASB,

We will be reporting back to the PACT and Community with updates about tackling these concerns in a months' time.





## City Centre Neighbourhood Policing - Out on patrol



**FIGHT, PREVENT AND REDUCE CRIME  
KEEP PEOPLE SAFE · CARE FOR VICTIMS**



# Independent Community Scrutiny Panels

The role of the ICSP is provide community oversight over the way that we use our Stop and Search powers in an effort to increase transparency with all communities across Greater Manchester; as well as build trust and confidence in the force.

**The Independent Community Scrutiny Panel is a good way of getting your communities voice heard and making positive changes for your community.**

Once every 2 months the group comes together to review Body Worn Videos of stop searches and suggest where they could be improved- whether that be directly providing feedback to the officer involved, or through force wide training provided to all officers.

Only by hearing the issues of the communities from members of those communities can we get better as a force and improve our working practices, so it is important to us that we get as many people from as many backgrounds as possible to join the ICSP so that we can truly understand how to address any issues with the use of police powers. These scrutiny panels give you a voice that we will listen to.

Becoming an ICSP member is fantastic opportunity to play a vital part in improving trust and confidence in GMP and building better relations with our community. You will become part of a team local people working with your local policing team on a voluntary basis.

## [What would I be doing as an ICSP member?](#)

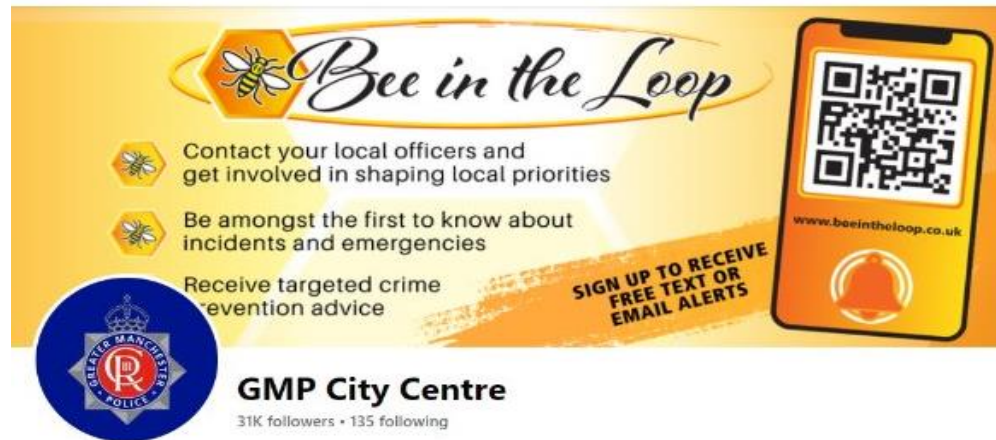
As an ICSP member you would be meeting with a group of community members and your local policing team on a voluntary basis where you will be provided with data and videos of stop searches. You will be given the opportunity to provide honest feedback on what you think as well as listening to other people's views. We also seek feedback on how our practices impact on communities, whether that is the reality or the perception, especially where disproportionality is highlighted.

**Please contact us for more information and a chat about how to become an Independent Community Scrutiny Panel Member**

Email: [citycentre@gmp.police.uk](mailto:citycentre@gmp.police.uk)

## Bee in the loop

*Greater Manchester Police have created a platform to keep you up to date with the work we are doing in YOUR area, raising awareness and to keep you safe. GMP is committed to strengthening dialogue with communities in a positive and proactive manner. Bee in the loop will allow you to choose what information you would like to know about including crime and incidents in your local area. The system is also an invaluable investigative tool and can be used to appeal for information or intelligence and help to solve crime.*



### Contact the Team

*Do you have any questions? Please feel free to contact the City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team.  
Email: [citycentre@gmp.police.uk](mailto:citycentre@gmp.police.uk)*

# City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Advice

## Crime prevention advice and support

### Theft from Person – Pickpockets - Mobile Phone Thieves – Don't let them pocket it!!!

You may have an idea of what a pickpocket looks like but they're far less likely to stand out in a crowd than you might think since blending in is part of how they avoid being caught. Here's how to spot a potential pickpocket and avoid losing your belongings to one

How to spot a pickpocket

#### The observers

These include people loitering in public places who appear to be checking out passers-by, paying particular interest to their handbags, shopping bags and where they might place their wallet or purse.

For example, be aware of individuals who appear to be focusing their attention on the waist area of others. This may be an indication of criminal intent and probable theft. But do bear in mind the fact that some people are naturally shy and do avoid eye contact.

Always follow your instincts.

#### The point of distraction

Pickpocket teams are adept at creating distractions. This could be anything from a game to a loud shout, all designed to avert your attention while an unseen accomplice steals your valuables

#### Crowding in

Thieves vary their tactics based on the location and the density of the crowd. One tactic is where a group of them push up against a victim in a crowded shop or street then quickly reach into the victim's pocket and steal their wallet, phone or purse.

#### Dirty tricks

Remember, pickpockets are very skilled at what they do. They know all the tricks and are extremely light-fingered with most of their thefts only taking a second or two. One of their tactics is 'hugger mugging' where a thief will appear to be over-friendly for no particular reason and hug you while pickpocketing you.

### REDUCE PROPERTY CRIME

Thousands of items of property are lost or stolen each year in the UK. The Immobilise National Property Register already holds the details of 20 million items of property. Add yours now to protect your property and to help the Police stop property crime.

#### REGISTER

Register your property for free at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com), it only takes a couple of minutes and once you have registered you will have a better chance of getting your property back if it's lost or stolen.

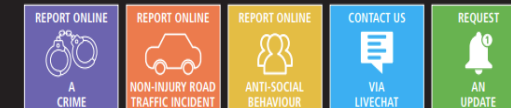
#### REPORT

If any item of registered property is lost or stolen report it to Immobilise via your online account. This information is then made available nationally to all the major UK Police forces via their online systems.

#### REUNITE

If your registered property is recovered either the Police or Immobilise will contact you and let you know its location.

### REPORT NON-EMERGENCIES ONLINE



You can access many of our services online at [gmp.police.uk](http://gmp.police.uk)  
For emergencies only call 999, or 101 if it's less urgent

GREATER MANCHESTER  
**POLICE**



[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

# TO PROTECT IT REGISTER IT



To get started visit  
[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)



Register your property  
**FREE** and improve your  
chances of getting it back  
if it is lost or stolen

**IMMOBILISE**  
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER

**FIGHT, PREVENT AND REDUCE CRIME  
KEEP PEOPLE SAFE · CARE FOR VICTIMS**

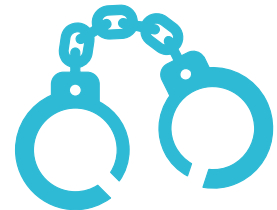


GREATER MANCHESTER  
**POLICE**



# City Centre Neighbourhood Priorities

## Vehicle Crime



### **WARNING** Is your vehicle secure?

- Is your car locked and your windows up?
- Don't leave your expensive belongings like your mobile and laptop on show in your care. Remove all valuables from your vehicle when leaving it unoccupied.
- At home don't leave car keys next to a door or window - thieves sometimes break into homes to steal your car keys.
- Always lock your car when leaving it unoccupied - even if it's only for a few minutes.
- If your car has a smart key keep your keys in a Faraday pouch or a metal tin.
- Registration plates are attractive to a thief. Fit tamper proof plates and/or screws.
- Unless you can park in a garage or on your drive, park in a well lit area that is visible to other people or covered by CCTV. Thieves are less likely to break in if they can be seen.



## Robbery

### How to avoid being a victim of personal robbery

Register your valuables on [immobilise.com](https://www.immobilise.com) and make a note of your mobile's IMEI number by dialling \*#06#. If your phone is stolen, it can speed up the process of getting the phone blocked when reporting the number to your service provider.



You can report incidents to GMP via 101, or by using LiveChat on our website. Always dial 999 in an emergency.

## Theft from Persons

