

# Policing and Crime - Resident Services Select Committee

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## 1. Introduction

**Purpose of the report:** This report provides a concise update on crime and community safety in the London Borough of Hillingdon. It sets out the strategic, change and operational context for local policing; summarises the latest performance on neighbourhood crime, serious violence and violence against women and girls (VAWG); and provides the most recent position on Stop and Search. It is intended to support transparent scrutiny while remaining suitable for live broadcast and wider public circulation.

## 2. Executive Summary

The latest monthly picture shows a mixed but manageable set of movements. Theft from the person increased by 12.0% (93 vs 83) and theft of motor vehicles by 6.8% (110 vs 103). Residential burglary fell by 23.4% (105 vs 137) and interfering with motor vehicles fell by 22.9% (27 vs 35).

Year-to-date trends remain broadly stable in key areas: burglary (-7.7%), personal robbery (-8.2%) and theft from vehicle (-8.3%) show sustained improvement. Theft from the person (+16.6%) and theft of motor vehicles (+14.9%) remain priority lines of operation.

Serious violence shows violence with injury up 7.1% year-to-date (2,005 vs 1,872), with a 17.6% increase in the latest month (174 vs 148). Possession of weapons is up 11.9% year-to-date (169 vs 151) with a month-on-month fall following targeted activity. Homicide and attempted murder remain rare and are fully supported by specialist resources.

VAWG-flagged offences are up 8.5% year-to-date (4,165 vs 3,837). Domestic-abuse-related VAWG has risen by 12.2% (2,160 vs 1,925) and non-domestic-abuse VAWG by 4.9% (2,005 vs 1,912). Rape reports are up 11.5% (290 vs 260). These increases reflect both improved identification/reporting and genuine demand, which we continue to tackle through strengthened safeguarding and offender management.

Stop and Search in the 12 months to 31 January 2026 totalled 3,260 searches (+20.7%) with 1,264 positive outcomes (+31.4%), giving a positive outcome rate of 38.8% (+3.2 percentage points). Body-Worn Video (BWV) was used in 98.3% of encounters. Under-18s accounted for approximately 16% of persons searched (excluding vehicle-only searches). Drugs remain the primary search ground, followed by weapons.

**Investigative outcomes:** Detection performance has strengthened across the main neighbourhood crime and VAWG categories in recent months, reflecting more focused investigations and partnership working. For the most serious offences, including murder and attempted murder, detection remains consistently high.

### 3. The Operating Environment

**Strategic environment.** Local policing operates under high public expectations. The Met's reform programme continues to embed locally, focusing on standards, visibility and community problem-solving. Careful attention to data quality ensures the Committee receives an accurate Hillingdon picture.

**Change environment.** We are strengthening frontline capability, sharpening tasking around harm and vulnerability, and improving professional practice in safeguarding and investigation. Partnership with the Council, health and the voluntary sector remains central to delivering sustainable outcomes.

**Operational environment.** Demand and harm are uneven across West Area BCU. We flex resources to the times and locations of highest risk, balance visible reassurance with covert disruption, and use targeted deployments - including technology-enabled tactics and cocooning after burglaries - to reduce risk and reassure residents.

### 4. Neighbourhood Crime

**Latest month (current four weeks vs previous four weeks).**

- **Theft from the person:** increased by 12.0% (93 vs 83), centred on specific high-footfall locations. Our response combines visible patrols for reassurance, plain-clothes deployments, CCTV-led suspect development and joint prevention with retailers and transport partners.
- **Theft of motor vehicles:** increased by 6.8% (110 vs 103), with clustering around known parking areas. We are using intelligence-led deployments and technology to deter and disrupt offending, with proportionate management of repeat offenders through the courts.
- **Residential burglary:** decreased by 23.4% (105 vs 137). We will sustain hotspot patrols, victim cocooning and target-hardening activity with the Council to lock in the gain.
- **Interfering with motor vehicles:** decreased by 22.9% (27 vs 35). We will maintain prevention messaging and targeted patrols in repeat locations.

**Year-to-date (FY24/25 vs FY23/24).**

- **Improving indicators:** burglary -7.7% (886 vs 960); personal robbery -8.2% (415 vs 452); theft from vehicle -8.3% (1,818 vs 1,982).
- **Ongoing pressure:** theft from the person +16.6% (1,017 vs 872); theft of motor vehicles +14.9% (1,077 vs 937). Vehicle offences overall are broadly flat (-0.9%). Shoplifting is marginally down (-1.5%; 2,821 vs 2,864) following sustained focus on top venues/offenders, although volumes remain above the two-year average.

**Investigative approach and outcomes.** We are sustaining hotspot-led tasking, proportionate covert/plain-clothes activity against prolific offenders, targeted prevention with the Council, CCTV-led investigations, cross-border work on vehicle crime and appropriate criminal justice levers, including Criminal Behaviour Orders where justified. Detection improvements across neighbourhood crime reflect earlier arrest of suspects, better evidence capture (including BWV/CCTV) and tighter case-builds.

## 5. Serious Violence

Violence with injury is up 7.1% year-to-date (2,005 vs 1,872) and up 17.6% month-on-month in the latest period (174 vs 148). Deployments are aligned to the times and locations of highest risk, with rapid intervention to prevent escalation and close working with partners to reduce retaliation and repeat harm.

Possession of weapons is up 11.9% year-to-date (169 vs 151). Month-on-month, offences fell following targeted operations, reflecting proactive recovery. Weapon sweeps, intelligence-led activity and offender management continue.

Homicide and attempted murder remain rare (small-number volatility: 4 vs 2; 5 vs 1 respectively year-to-date). All such cases receive specialist investigation and robust safeguarding for victims and witnesses, and detection rates for these categories remain consistently high.

## 6. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

VAWG-flagged offences have increased by 8.5% year-to-date (4,165 vs 3,837). Domestic-abuse-related VAWG has risen by 12.2% (2,160 vs 1,925) and non-domestic-abuse VAWG by 4.9% (2,005 vs 1,912). Rape reports are up 11.5% (290 vs 260).

Our approach is survivor-centred and perpetrator-focused: strengthened Public Protection resourcing, enhanced management of the most harmful suspects, evidence-led prosecutions, and targeted deployments in the night-time economy to deter and detect predatory behaviour. We continue to work closely with partners to ensure consistent safeguarding and support pathways. Investigative performance has strengthened across VAWG categories, with earlier suspect identification, improved digital evidence handling and closer partner coordination improving outcomes for victims.

## 7. Stop and Search

In the 12 months to 31 January 2026, 3,260 Stop and Searches were conducted (+20.7%) with 1,264 positive outcomes (+31.4%), delivering a 38.8% positive outcome rate (+3.2 percentage points). No-further-action outcomes were 1,996 (+14.8%). Body-Worn Video was used in 98.3% of encounters. Under-18s accounted for approximately 16% of persons searched (excluding vehicle-only searches). Primary search grounds were drugs, followed by weapons. Use is intelligence-led and subject to community oversight to ensure fairness and accountability.