



Engagement

Winter 2010

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Engagement Team newsletter.

This newsletter has been produced to raise awareness of the work of GMPA's Engagement Team. It's been a very busy few months for us all. We've toured all 12 policing divisions consulting with members of the public on the 'Have Your Say' road shows and spoken to more than 1,700 people.

We've launched a new e-resource called 'Bread & Butter' that's proving a huge success with schools and youth groups. We're thrilled that as this newsletter goes to print we're waiting to hear if it has been successful in winning a 'Recognising Excellence Award' at the Association of Police Authorities annual event in London. Our digital initiatives don't stop there - we're making the final touches to the new-look GMPA website that features a new level of interactivity, which includes social networking and invites visitors to 'Ask the Chair'.

GMPA works with many young people from all across Greater Manchester. I've had the opportunity to meet with them on a number of occasions and I'm always pleased to hear of their voluntary work with us. This newsletter provides you with an insight into how they have developed and I hope you enjoy reading all about it.

Christine McGawley JP
GMPA Vice Chair



Christine McGawley JP
(GMPA Vice Chair)

STARS TOAST BREAD & BUTTER LAUNCH

Soap stars, sports stars and police leaders joined forces at the Lowry in Salford Quays to help Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) launch its new internet-based learning resource called 'Bread & Butter'.

Turn over to find out more!



Councillor Paul Murphy (GMPA Chairman), John Ameachi (former NBA star) and Peter Fahy (GMP Chief Constable)

Bread & Butter
GMPA Learning Resource

HOME ABOUT VIDEOS CONTACT SIGN UP

GMPA Citizenship teaching packs for young people aged 11-14 years.

WIN a VIP day with the police
Sign up today and your chance of winning 1 of 4 VIP days with the police!

About Bread & Butter
We are Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA). Our free downloadable teaching packs are aimed at young people aged 11-14 years studying Key Stages 3 and 4 of the National Citizenship Curriculum in local schools. Each teaching pack contains:
• Informative video presentation
• Step-by-step lesson delivery plan
• Pupil worksheets
• Glossary of terms

Gallery

Help pack
Do you want to play our videos straight off your computer with a projector connected or on a TV through a DVD player?
This handy step-by-step guide is designed for anyone to use and will walk you through the process in no time:
• Learn how to download our Teaching Packs
• Learn how to burn a DVD
• Learn how to save to a memory stick

Greater Manchester Police Authority 2010

Bread & Butter website

STARS TOAST BREAD & BUTTER LAUNCH

The new website is for anyone who works with young people and offers free downloadable teaching packs containing videos, lesson plans and other learning materials.

Current teaching topics are Preventing Knife Crime, Preventing Violent Extremism and Guns and Gangs, with more to be added in the coming months. All the teaching packs complement Key Stages 3 & 4 of the National Curriculum for 11-14 year olds and GMPA is the first police authority in the UK to launch such an initiative.

Former EastEnder and knife-crime activist Brooke Kinsella officially launched the Preventing Knife Crime teaching pack. She said:

"I think it is absolutely brilliant that GMPA has devised this website. One of the biggest problems I hear from everyone is getting anti-knife crime programmes into schools. The fact there is a website where you can download free educational packs is amazing."

Peter Fahy, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police officially launched the 'Guns and Gangs' teaching pack describing the new e-resource as 'innovative' and an excellent piece of work for schools and youth groups to use. Paralympics gold medallist Sarah Storey spoke about the need to tackle stereotyping and discrimination in schools when launching the Preventing Violent Extremism teaching pack, and former NBA star John Amaechi called 'Bread & Butter' an 'essential tool' for engaging young people to make a difference.

GMPA Chairman Councillor Paul Murphy opened the event and explained that the creation of a one-stop shop to bring all GMPA teaching resources together was a cost effective solution for the mass distribution of free educational resources across Greater Manchester and added:

"Over 100 schools and youth groups have signed up to the Bread & Butter website since it went live at the beginning of November and an estimated 10,700 young people will soon be using our teaching packs. We expect this number to continue to rise following great feedback and the support of such influential people. GMPA is proud of Bread & Butter - particularly as young people have played such a great part in developing the content."

The free teaching packs are now available to download by registering your details at www.gmpa.gov.uk/breadandbutter



GMPA Engagement Team celebrating a successful launch



Dan Foster and Afshan Lodhi demonstrate Bread & Butter site



Sarah Storey (Paralympic Gold Medallist)



GMPA volunteers with John Amaechi (former NBA star)



Brooke Kinsella (Eastenders actress)



Peter Fahy (GMP Chief Constable) making a speech at the launch event

Celebrating the end of Changing Faces

In the winter of 2008 GMPA launched a new project called 'Changing Faces'.

The aim of the project was to educate young people and increase the resilience of all communities within Greater Manchester by challenging violent extremist ideology and supporting mainstream voices through promoting a stronger understanding of different faiths and cultural beliefs. They developed an educational tool to supply professionals with a structured package of creative ideas on how to present fun, thought-provoking educational lesson plans and videos.

GMPA enlisted the help of eleven 14 – 19 year olds who were recruited in July 2008 from the 10 metropolitan boroughs of Greater Manchester. The talented individuals assisted by designing, producing, and editing material for the resource alongside the Puppet Broadcasting Company (PBC).

In the summer, members of Changing Faces and their families came together for the last time to officially mark

the end of GMPA's Changing Faces project. The celebration evening held at Sedgley Park was also attended by GMP's Assistant Chief Constable Simon Byrne and GMPA's Executive Director Russell Bernstein who thanked group members for all their hard work and presented them with certificates to mark their successful completion of the project.

Mohammed Ahmed, a member of the group, said: *"Changing Faces experience has been life changing for me. It has influenced my future career path. I've learnt so much about counter terrorism legislation, politics and the way the police tackle violent extremism. I've also met so many new friends and want to thank the Police Authority for providing me with the opportunity to participate in this project"*.

The Changing Faces project produced the Preventing Violent Extremism teaching pack which is available to download through the Bread & Butter website – www.gmpa.gov.uk/breadandbutter



Changing Faces team with puppets that feature in the learning resource

Have Your Say Road Shows

This summer GMPA worked alongside Greater Manchester Police to get out and about in local communities meeting the public and encouraging them to have their say.

Travelling the length and breadth of Greater Manchester, the roadshow van experienced desert heat and near-hurricane storms, but it didn't stop the wheels turning and moving from place to place!

Venues for the 'Have Your Say' roadshow varied from carnivals and crime prevention events to local supermarket car parks and back gardens – it's fair to say that no stone was left unturned. The Authority visited all 12 policing divisions in Greater Manchester over a three month period and spoke to more than 1,700 people. GMPA used the opportunity to consult on various issues such as policing priorities and what the police budget should be spent on next year. Face-to-face and touch screen surveys were used to capture opinion.

Now all the results are in, GMPA has analysed the information and made recommendations to Greater Manchester Police about what the public want from their neighbourhood policing teams.



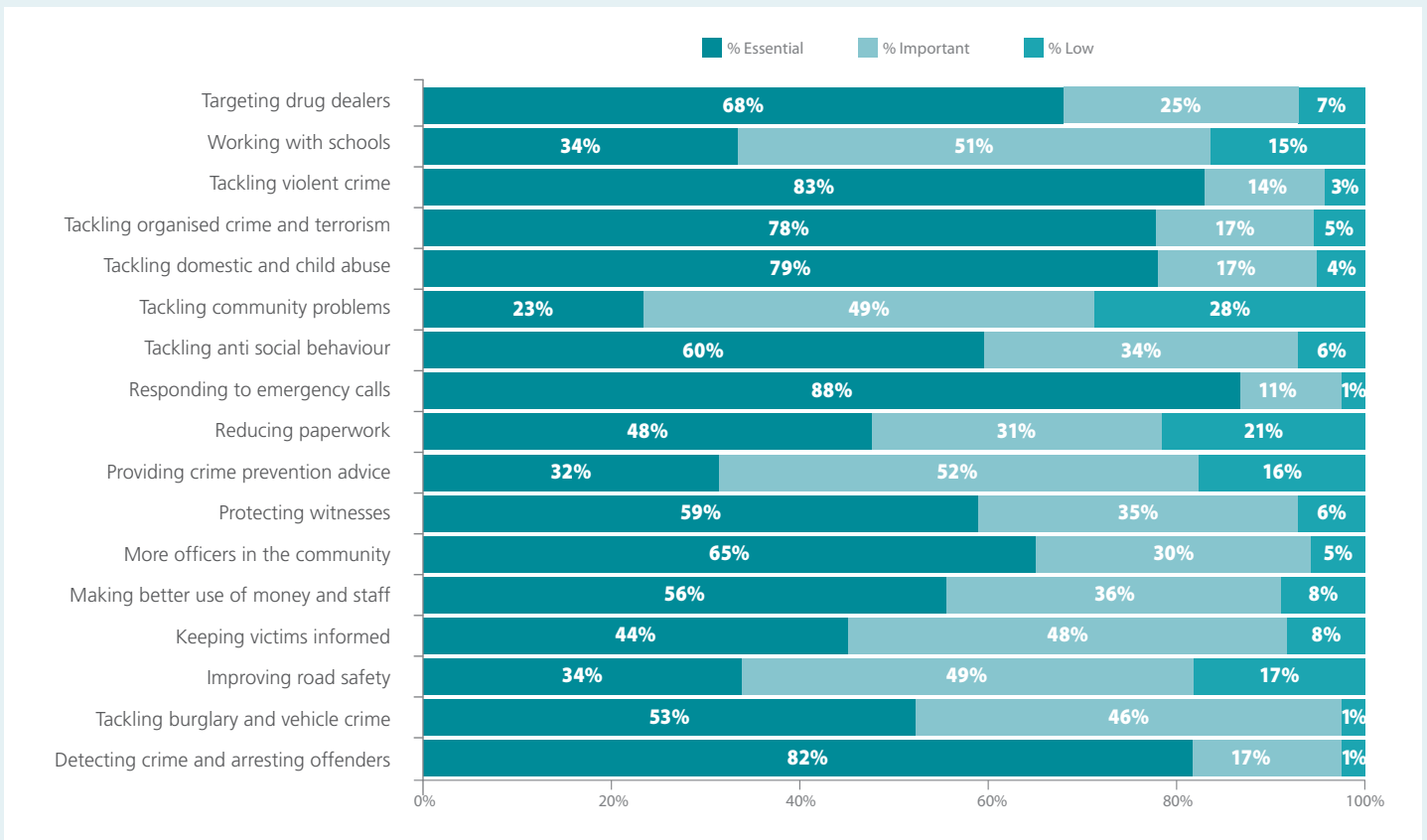
Consulting with members of the public



'Have Your Say' team on the van

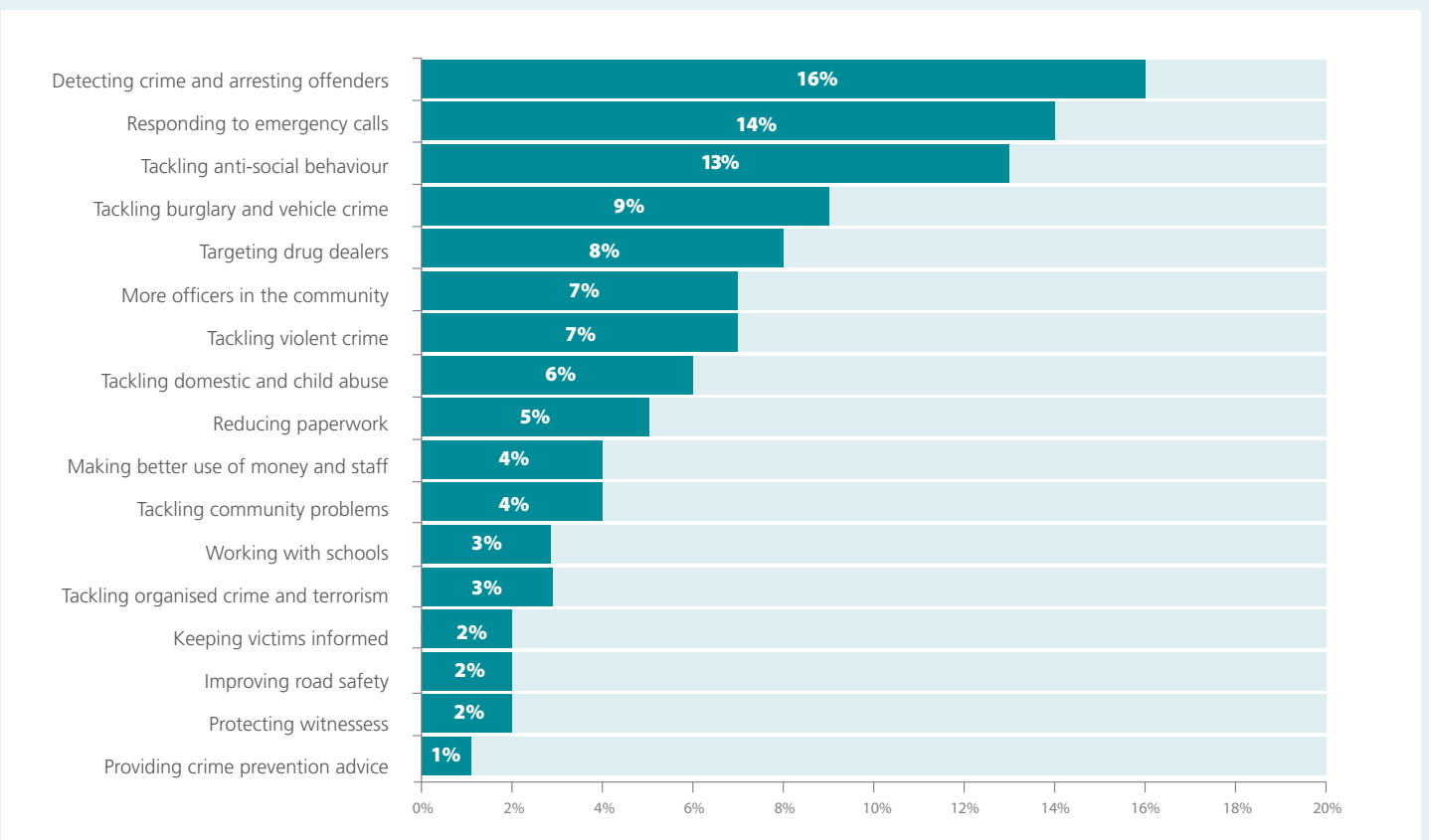
The Greater Manchester public were asked to rank a series of policing priorities as either essential, important or low. Here are the results:

GMMA Policing Priorities Results (Questionnaire) - All Greater Manchester Areas – 1065 respondents



Members of the public were asked "What should be the top priority for Greater Manchester Police?" Here are the results:

GMMA Policing Priorities Results (Touch Screen) - All Greater Manchester Areas – 571 respondents



Proud to be at Pride

August bank holiday weekend saw the usual thousands of people descend on Manchester's Gay Village for the three-day annual Gay Pride event. Not wanting to miss out on the celebrations and also take the opportunity to promote ourselves, GMPA officers and volunteers went along to take part in the Parade as part of the Police with Pride contingent as well as to hold a stall in the Lifestyle Expo for the duration of the festival.

We gathered down at Castlefield on Saturday morning for the Parade assembly alongside famous faces, including many of the cast of Coronation Street. As we waited for the Parade to begin, the clouds thickened and we were subject to a torrential downpour which saw all the flamboyant, costume-wearing, fur and feather flaunting semi-clad parade entrants running for cover. The stall holder selling transparent rain capes was the only one enjoying the rain! But, as we were signalled to line up for the start of the parade and the Police band struck up a tune, the clouds parted, the sun smiled down on us and promised not to 'rain on our Parade!'



Engagement Team at Pride

The remainder of the weekend was spent staffing the GMPA information stall alongside volunteers. We took the opportunity to encourage as many people as possible to fill in our Have

Your Say (on policing) questionnaires however, little encouragement was required as we completed 400 questionnaires on the first day!

Overall our presence at Manchester Pride was a huge success, not only in terms of gathering the views of the public, but also in terms of raising our profile and increasing awareness of the role of a Police Authority. But for some of us, our presence at Pride also holds a very personal relevance given the history of persecution that members of the LGBT communities have faced. To be able to walk 'out and proud' in the Parade alongside friends and colleagues, with huge crowds waving and cheering us on is always an emotional experience. And to have Greater Manchester's Chief Constable Peter Fahy and Chairman of the Police Authority Cllr Paul Murphy joining in the YMCA dance through the streets of Manchester made it all the more an unforgettable experience! Roll on Pride 2011!

By Lisa K
GMPA Engagement Officer



Engagement Team at Pride

TAKING THE PLUNGE

Confidence at an all-time low and nervously walking off the end of a plank suspended 50 feet in the air proved a step in the right direction for Wigan teen James Leatherbarrow.



James Leatherbarrow conquers fear

"He was going to back out like he's done so many times in the past but he didn't want to let people down", explains caring mum Hazel. "His shyness has got worse as he's got older, he's not outgoing and is always the last to get involved with things."

James's lack of confidence had become such a problem that it affected his school work and ability to interact with others. Behavioural concerns saw the 13-year-old referred to the Wigan Youth Inclusion and Support project who deal with young people at risk of offending.

The team enrolled him on a Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) course designed to increase the confidence of young people in policing, through a variety of workshops including animal handling, assault courses and mock crime scenes.

"The idea of this programme is to encourage teenagers to engage with police officers through interactive activities, to break down barriers and build relationships" says Lisa Korczynski, GMPA Engagement Officer.

"At GMPA we have a duty to increase confidence in policing; many of the young people involved thought we were the police until they realised that we are completely independent. We're here to make sure the police do their job properly!"

Two action-packed days this summer saw James working with police horses and throwing himself off 50 foot ledges, blindfolded with only a harness for support! His youth workers applauded the positive attitude and confidence he showed by getting involved with everything that was thrown at him.

"We called it the 'Leap of Faith' - getting ready to jump off that ledge made me very nervous, but I overcame my fear of heights", explains James. "My work is getting better at school and the whole experience has helped me. I hope to do more work with the police - especially training the dogs - they were amazing!"

Young Writer inspired by GMPA

A racist outburst on the 192 bus could have shattered Afshan Lodhi's confidence forever.

Alarmingly she was accused of being a terrorist suicide bomber simply for wearing the hijab – she is now on the cusp of signing a book deal thanks to her work with Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA).

"I was so angry," Afshan recalls, "how could anyone think I would harm someone simply because I was wearing the hijab. I knew I wanted to write something as soon as it happened – to get all my experiences down on paper – to write a short script so my story could be heard."

It was during this time that Afshan became aware of the Preventing Violent Extremism work being carried out by GMPA. The Authority was making a teaching pack for schools and Afshan was lucky enough to be selected for the Changing Faces project following a rigorous interview

process to short-list the hundreds of young people who applied to take part.

"It sounded so inspiring, they were looking for young people like me to get involved – it was an amazing opportunity that ultimately changed my life."

Armed with her short script and 'bags of belief' Afshan managed to get her script read by professional actors at the Royal Exchange in Manchester. Her journey was captured on film by GMPA and features in the Preventing Violent Extremism teaching pack .

"It was a dream come true, something I never thought possible. I wrote it for other Muslim girls to make a difference, we shouldn't be tormented and terrorised for who we are or what we wear".

Afshan's tireless crusade to make a difference has seen her organise anti-

discrimination events and develop her short script into a major novel called 'That Random Muslim'.

The book is soon to be finished and Afshan is in discussions with various publishing agencies to get her dream to print.

The Preventing Violent Extremism teaching pack is available now to download from the Bread & Butter website at www.gmpa.gov.uk/breadandbutter



Afshan Lodhi (GMPA Volunteer)

Ask the Chair

GMPA is to celebrate 2011 by going all interactive!

The Authority's soon-to-be launched new look website will be more accessible than ever. Visitors can still read all about GMPA and its consultation and engagement work across Greater Manchester, but soon they'll be able to go one step further – by posing questions to the Chairman himself!



'Ask the Chair' is the second new digital initiative launched by GMPA in the last six months following the success of the Bread & Butter e-resource website. Councillor Paul Murphy, GMPA Chairman, explains:

"It's important that people in Greater Manchester can approach us. We want to hear their views on policing and give them the opportunity to ask questions that I will do my best to answer. I do not want GMPA to be a faceless police authority. I want people to know we are here for them and I look forward to hearing from members of the public in the coming months."

Councillor Murphy's question and answer sessions will be available to view online each month and GMPA is the first authority in the UK to launch such an initiative. Sending a question to the Chairman couldn't be easier – simply visit the website and submit a question via the online form.

A revitalised online police survey, Facebook integration and media galleries containing videos and photos of the work carried out by GMPA are just a few of the additional features set to appear on the new-look GMPA website when it is launched in the coming weeks.