

London Manifestos 2016 – Crime and Justice Round Up

While crime stats have been falling overall, the fear of crime in local areas, particularly with the rise in violent and knife crime, has not. The threat of terrorism also remains prominent in the capital. In response, the London manifestos from the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrats and Greens stress the need for the police to be more visible through increased numbers in inner city 'hot-spots' and on public transport.

All parties' manifestos focus on community policing and propose various reforms of local policing tools to provide safer neighbourhoods. The theme of protection of vulnerable groups is a further common denominator, including women and girls at risk of domestic or sexual violence, or religiously-motivated crimes.

High on the agenda also: tackling gangs, a zero tolerance approach to hate crime and the improved evidence based use of stop-and-search practices; and a focus on not just fighting but also preventing crime through better anti-gang strategies and early intervention programmes for young people. The Green Party widens this to crimes committed under the influence of serious drugs, which may be solved by decriminalising less dangerous drugs, and the need to tackle dangerous driving offences.

Much of the campaign had focused Zac vs Sadiq on tackling extremism. Labour wants to achieve this "through integration and empowerment" while Goldsmith wants to introduce a new industry-led covenant on tackling extremist content. But aside from that much of their manifestos is very similar.

Both propose increasing staff cyber skills and a greater use of technology such as body-worn cameras - Goldsmith throws in a few more gadgets such as GPS and traceable liquids - but both want a new crime app to allow more service user involvement; through Sadiq stops short of allowing residents to 'spend bank of police time' as proposed by Zac.

While all parties stress the need for more localised policing, the Conservatives and UKIP had some common ground with their focus to tackle burglary and anti-social behaviour. The Liberal Democrats and UKIP both focus on the need to give Borough Commanders more responsibility and to be more accountable, which the Liberal Democrats extend to the London Police and Crime Commissioner, who will be elected alongside the new mayor on 5 May.



The Conservative Party will limit the **availability of weapons** and work with the Government and retailers to ensure major changes are delivered to keep Londoners safe. (p79)

The party will lobby the Government to give **judges, magistrates and prison governors** the power to back up Gang Injunctions with GPS tags to guarantee the police are alerted if gang members break the conditions of their release. (p79)

The Government will also be lobbied for a **'two strikes and you're out' approach to gang membership** whereby any second infringement conducted by a known gang leader results in prison. (p79)

The party will invest in **prevention work** so more young people have a bright future ahead of them instead of a future behind bars. (p79)

The Conservative Party will lobby the Government for more control over the "£229m **youth justice** budget, so London can spend that money on preventing children turning to crime. (p79)

The party will ensure the Met reports and tracks all **victims and offenders** they encounter with **diagnosable mental health issues** and work with the police and NHS London to bring that number down. (p80)

As part of the Action Plan for Greater London, the party will also ensure the Met extends its current **Nurses on Patrol programme**, a successful initiative providing officers with 24-hour support from mental health professionals. (p80)

The party will insist that police, prosecutors and teachers all have the training they need to spot women and girls at risk, that they handle these cases of domestic violence and harassment with the utmost care and sensitivity. (p81)

The Conservative Party will carry out a London-wide **'Know your Rights' campaign**, in multiple languages. Funding for specialist support services for communities where women and girls are more likely to face FGM or forced marriage will be brought in. (p81)

The party will ensure **police officers wear body-worn cameras** when attending crime scenes in order to gather the best possible evidence against perpetrators of domestic violence. (p81)

The Conservatives will work with the Met, the NHS and the Crown Prosecution Service to co-locate specialist police and legal teams in London's **emergency Havens**. (p81)

The Government will be lobbied to put the needs of women and girls at the heart of the justice system and for the Ministry of Justice to prioritise **domestic and sexual violence** cases as they go through the courts. (p81)

Under the Conservatives, all **violence offenders** will be forced to attend specialist prevention programmes as a condition of bail. Also, men who receive court orders banning them from family homes will have a GPS tag fitted as standard and be sent to prison if they breach it. (p82)

The party would introduce a tough new industry-led covenant on tackling **extremist content**. (p85)

Would instruct the Met to take a zero tolerance approach to **hate crime** and ensure that other public bodies do the same. (p86)

Working with Tech City to create a new **"Cyber Specials" unit of tech expert volunteers** to improve Met cyber skills. (p77)

Goldsmith wants to work closely with **Police Now** to widen the pool of potential police officers. (p76)

The Conservatives are supporting the Met's decision to double the **number of armed response vehicles** and would expand the intelligence-led **use of stop and search**. (p86)

Goldsmith would put 500 extra officers on **public transport at night funding by TfL**. (p87) Would review perks such as the nominee passes that allow the family members and even housemates of all TfL employees to travel free of charge. (p86)

Would look at possibility of converting some of TfL's recently closed ticket offices into **Police Contact Points** at specified times of the week and trial this in ten pilot areas. (p87)

Will work with government so boroughs are able to target specific premises or locations, through the **creation of specific zones based on the density of licenses** within a block. (p87)

Will make sure that boroughs get to keep all the revenue raised from the **late night levy**, rather than diverting 70 per cent to City Hall as they do at present. (p87)

The party will look at a **target of 100 officers on patrol on Friday and Saturdays at inner London** hotspots like Leicester Square, and around 30 officers for areas like Kingston. (p87)

The party has committed to **doubling the number of police officers protecting parks** to control littering, dog-fouling and damaging of the surroundings. (p27)

The party will work with the police and the Government to deploy a new team of **Environmental Crime Wardens** to London's Royal Parks. The Conservatives will continue to back the Met's Wildlife Crime Unit also. (p27)

On **fly-tipping**, the Conservatives will work with the Government to secure on-the-spot fining powers. (p27)

Goldsmith will guarantee that **police officer numbers** stay above 32,000, financed through a five year spending settlement. (p75)

Will crack down on inefficiencies in spending for **outside goods and services** in the Met, which could be lowered by 70 per cent. (p75)

Local residents will have more say in policing in their neighbourhoods through the introduction of a **'You Decide' programme**. It will initially be trialled in six areas and allows neighbourhoods to manage a 'bank' of police time, which they can spend directly on whatever police activity they choose. (p75)

A competition will be held for the design of a **crime reporting app**: a Virtual Neighbourhood Watch on your smartphone, which will allow online monitoring and reporting of crime by residents which is fed directly to the Met. (p75)

The party will focus on preventing and solving cases of **burglary**. Measures will include the implementation of **security requirements for developers** to 'design out crime', responsibilities of the Met to **visit local neighbours** as well as victims of burglary and increased use of **traceable liquids**. (p76)

It will pursue a **zero tolerance approach to antisocial behaviour**. The Mayor's office will advocate the right to community triggers, escalating complaints that have been ignored by local councils or the Met to the Mayor for action. (p76)

Increase ethnic **diversity within the Met's police force** by raising proportion of ethnic minority officers above 50 per cent; this will be supported by Police Now to widen the pool of candidates. (p76)



The party will appoint a **Chief Digital Officer** to oversee growth in the sector as well as taking responsibility for increasing digital inclusion across our city and leading on cyber-security. (p16)

The Labour Party will prioritise **neighbourhood policing**; maintaining the role of officers as a visible local presence. (p.40)

The party will commit to tackling **violence against women and girls**. They will prioritise a greater police presence on public transport, hold zero tolerance of domestic and sexual violence and develop better support for victims of sexual and domestic violence. (p.40)

The party will invest in **new technology** enable police officers to do their job efficiently and effectively. (p.41)

It will implement a tough **knife crime strategy** which focuses on tackling the city's gangs, shops illegally selling knives and tougher community payback. (p.42)

The party will develop **anti-gang strategies** by working closely with local authorities, schools and youth services. (p.42)

It will ensure that **school liaison officers** continue to work closely with schools. It will also continue to back the City Safe Haven initiative. (p.42)

The Labour Party will sell Boris Johnson's **water cannon** and spend the money on youth projects aimed at decreasing gang crime. (p.42)

It will fight for **further powers over youth justice, probation and courts**. (p.42)

Through the **integration of communities and empowering mainstream Muslims**, the Labour Party will push to tackle extremism and radicalisation in London. (p.42)

It will ensure **frontline neighbourhood police** have the facilities and resources to capture vital information that security services rely on. (p.43)

The party will carry out an **urgent review of the Met's armed response capability** to ensure the city is able to cope with the threat of terrorism. (p.43)

The party intends to have a **diverse Met police force** which represents the communities it is charged with keeping safe. (p.43)

It will ensure that **stop and search** is used in an evidence-based and targeted manner. (p.43)

The Labour Party will roll out the use of **body cameras** worn by the police. (p.43)

It will direct the Met to adopt a strict **zero tolerance approach to hate crime** and will ensure officers have the resources and training they need to combat this. (p.43)

The party will establish an online portal – **Track My Crime** – to improve the experiences of victims. (p.43)



The party will increase the **number of police** on the streets from 32,000 to 35,000 targeting crime hot spots across the transport network. (p.23)

The 'Cardiff model' will be rolled out in all **hospital A&E departments** whereby data on violence-related admissions is always anonymously shared and used to develop crime reduction responses. (p.23)

The Lib Dems will create strong **Town Centre Police Teams** where Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) boundaries cross busy town centres. (p.23)

The three **water cannons** bought by the Mayor will be sold. (p.23)

The party will give each neighbourhood its **own plan for policing** and the deployment of officers, based on ward surveys and involving local people and local businesses in decisions. (p.25)

Recent cuts to hate crime policing posts will be reversed, alongside developing a London-wide strategy for reporting, investigating and prosecuting hate crimes. (p.25)

The party will devolve more resources to local borough commanders and allow them to set priorities in line with local priorities and hold an annual public meeting, at which all those responsible for crime prevention and reduction will be held to account, including **London's Police and Crime Commissioner**. (p.25)



The party would treat **drug addiction** as a health issue instead of waiting for it to become a crime issue. They would ensure that services are better integrated in order to bring a greater number of addicts into health care rather than the courts. (p.15)

The party support the evidence and consensus against the **blanket national prohibition** of less dangerous drugs. (p15)

The party will replace officer targets with more **frontline capacity targets**, with a particular focus on neighbourhood and community policing.

They will undertake a **review of council service and funding cuts** since 2010 and explore ways of using more of the Met's budget to support community organisations. (p21)

They would lobby Government for a fairer settlement on costs incurred from national and '**capital city status**' duties and for the power to recover all policing costs from commercial venues and events such as airports and football matches. (p18)

They would work with Londoners to develop new **approaches to policing**, and a model of policing by consent, extending to community policing, preserving public order while maintaining free speech and the right to protest, and the use of force. (p21)

The party will protect and expand **Safer Neighbourhood Teams** with a new drive to recruit community support officers from their local communities, making the teams more representative in order to increase levels of trust. (p21)

The party would promote more **inter-agency cooperation** between the police, social services, physical and mental health organisations and youth services. (p21)

The Greens would **create a fund within the Met budget for voluntary and community groups** that help reduce the causes of criminal behaviour, for example youth groups that address knife crime. (p.21)

The party would roll out a '**community initiative**' response to gangs as a replacement for the flawed Operation Shield. (p21)

The Greens would **campaign for the decriminalisation of all drugs** and the legalisation of less harmful drugs such as cannabis. (p21)

The party would end the blanket **use of stop and search**. (p21)

The party would improve the **diversity of the Met**, setting ambitious targets for the number of women and black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) officers. They would introduce a clear strategy for identifying areas of underrepresented talent and actively promote women and BAME officers. (p22)

The party would review the **implementation of the Prevent legislation** and commission community and voluntary organisations to investigate ways in which the police can improve their relationships with local communities. (p22)

The party would ensure all police officers receive adequate **disability equality training**. (p22)

The party would guarantee a **liaison officer** in every borough to work with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender and all sexualities and gender identities (LGBT+) communities. (p22)

Each borough will also draw up an Anti-Homophobia Action Plan to remedy local hate crime hotspots. (p22)

The Greens would lead a Londonwide review of training, resources and delivery of local health, police, child, adult and community services to ensure **harmful practices** such as female genital mutilation, honour killings and forced marriage are prevented or prosecuted. (p22)

The party would call for comprehensive **reform of the IPCC**. (p22)

The Greens would scrap the **Territorial Support Group** and use its current funding to train more ordinary police officers for public order situations. (p22)

The party would end the use of '**kettling**' and help to eliminate deaths in custody and unnecessary police shootings by supporting independent inquiries into every death. (p22)

The Greens would carry out an **audit of all databases** that hold the personal details of Londoners. (p22)

The party would ensure **domestic refuges** are funded strategically at a London level, leaving no refuge overly dependent on an individual borough council's budget. They would work with councils to set up **one-stop shops for domestic violence** survivors in every borough. (p23)

The party would guarantee sufficient funding for four **rape crisis** centres in London, making sure that all survivors of sexual violence are given the support they need. (p23)

The party would expand the **provision of women's refuges** with specialist skills to help ethnic minority women at risk of honour killings and other criminal acts. (p23)

The party would continue **training all police officers** in how to handle domestic and sexual violence sensitively. (p23)

The party would develop an agenda for **traffic justice reform**. They would improve enforcement of the rules of the road with a higher priority for the traffic police budget and a crackdown on uninsured drivers, and continue Transport for London's promotion of driving bans for unsafe drivers. (p23)

They would increase the council tax precept for **the London Fire Brigade** to help reverse the damaging and tragic cuts to fire stations and fire engines across London. (p24)

The Greens would ensure that **driving offences** that kill and injure are recorded and treated in the same way as other violent crime. (p24)

The party would establish a **working group with victims and campaigners** to agree performance indicators and increase community confidence in the investigation and prosecution of drivers who kill and seriously injure people. (p24)

They would **establish a road death and injury investigation** in London and set standards for fatal and injury investigations. (p24)

The party would lobby the Government for a full **review of driving offences**. (p24)



UKIP will **support the Metropolitan police when negotiating with the Home office on budget matters and resource issues.** (p14)

They will place **greater emphasis on territorial policing and give Borough Commanders more responsibility for local policing plans.** (p14)

If elected, **UKIP will devolve spending decisions to Borough Commanders.** (p14)

UKIP will continue to **support Stop and Search methods.** (p14)

If elected to Mayor, Peter Whittle will use his influence to **reinforce messages on the dangers of carrying knives**, ensuring the Met has appropriate powers at their disposal to find and deal with criminals carrying lethal weapons. (p14)

UKIP will urge the Metropolitan police to **investigate every instance of burglary.** (p14)

On 'cultural' crimes, UKIP will **change cultural relativism within the police force to prevent female genital mutilation.** Peter Whittle will also **campaign for a ban on Sharia Court tribunals hearing divorce cases.** (p15)

UKIP will **oppose calls for any amnesty for illegal immigrants.** (p15)

They will urge the police to **prosecute all cases of adult sexual-behaviour with under-age minors.** (p15)

If elected UKIP will make it clear that **those who supply illegal drugs should face the full force of the law.** (p15)

A **zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour** will be encouraged amongst the police. (p15)

UKIP will **encourage police officers to stay in areas longer to foster good community relations.** (p15)