

'COMMUNITIES TOGETHER'

Helpline: 0800 028 2390

Community Information Bulletin Number **104**

Dated 20th February 2007

16:00hours

(New Content in the Bulletin is now in Blue Type)

If you live, work or regularly visit London and have been affected by recent events, call the

COMMUNITIES TOGETHER HELP AND ADVICE LINE
on **0800 028 2390**

Our staff can provide help and support 24hrs a day

This information is intended for dissemination into London's diverse communities

G19625-504 Design Studio



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

Communities Together Updates

As a result of the tragic events in July 2005, the Metropolitan Police launched the Communities Together - Police Message Broadcast initiative.

Using www.police.uk you are also able to report crimes directly to the police and send Community Information back to the MPS

By registering on at <http://www.police.uk/services/mb/default.asp> you will receive warnings when new Bulletins and messages when they are published.

If you have any comments about the bulletin or anything contained in it, or simply want to pass information to us please feed them back to CommunitiesTogether@met.police.uk

This same process can be used to send information in relation to community incidents or concerns.

Communities Together Help and Advice Line

The Communities Together Help line is available on 0800 028 2390 to offer advice and support to anyone who feels vulnerable as a result of terrorist attacks or other incidents in London.

Minicom is also available on 0800 028 6522. In an emergency you should always call 999

A 'Communities Together' leaflet has been produced that provides details of organizations that can help you if you have been a victim of prejudice or hate. This can be ordered from the MPS publicity department on 0207 230 3644 or via your local police station.

Circulation of the 'Communities Together' Bulletin

This Bulletin is produced to be circulated to the widest possible audience, please forward the link or document to a wider audience.

The Bulletin can also be printed and circulated in; libraries, waiting rooms, places of worship, community halls or any other locations with large gatherings of people. This will enable those that don't have Internet access to view the weekly Bulletin.

Your assistance in this circulation will help us make London a Safer place and will assist in the prevention and detection of crime.

Metropolitan Police News, Appeals and Information

Crimewatch (BBC) programme will next be broadcast on Monday 5th March 2007. Their website currently contains a number of current MPS appeals that can be viewed.

www.bbc.co.uk/crime/crimewatch

- 1. Police appeal over the murder of Billy Cox**
- 2. Police appeal for witnesses and information following the death of three people**

1) Police appeal over the murder of Billy Cox

Officers investigating the shooting of 15 year old Billy Cox in Clapham North on Wednesday 14 February 2007 are reiterating appeals for information and any witnesses who have not yet spoken to police.

At approx 15.30 hours on Wednesday 14th February 2007, Billy COX born 17/04/1991, was at home in Fenwick Place, Clapham SW9 with person(s) unknown.

His younger sister was returning to the address when she heard a 'bang'. She went in and found her brother dying. A friend turned up at the premises, and helped her to give first aid.

The ambulance service attended and treated Billy, but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

A post-mortem gave cause of death as a gunshot wound to the chest.

An Incident Room has opened under DCI Peter Valentine (Trident). There have been no arrests and enquiries continue.

DCS Helen Ball said: "We are still very keen to hear from anyone who was in the area of Billy's house at any point in the late afternoon of 14/02/200, leading up to 15.30hours

"We cannot be sure how many suspects there were nor how they arrived at Billy's house. We also need to know if anybody saw anyone leaving the house at around 15.30 hours

"We continue to keep an open mind re the motive for the murder.

"And I would appeal to anyone who knew Billy and has not yet spoken to police - if you have any information please come forward. You can contact the incident room on **020 8247 4553**; if you wish to remain anonymous please call **Crimestoppers 0800 555 111** in the strictest confidence, or you can visit the mobile police station in Fenwick Place or contact your nearest police station."

2) Police appeal for witnesses and information following the death of three people.

At approximately 16.45 on 19.02.07 we attended an address in Birchdown House, Devons Rd, E3 after concerns that the residents had not been spoken to for some days.

Inside the address officers discovered the bodies of a 29 y/o woman, a 49 y/o man and a fourth month-old female baby. All three were pronounced dead at the scene.

We are in the process of tracing and informing next of kin and await formal identification so are not yet in a position to discuss identities.

Post mortems will be arranged in due course.

We retain an open mind regarding the circumstances at this early stage, and the deaths are being treated as suspicious at present.

SCD1 are currently investigating. An incident room will be opened in due course.

At this time anyone with information is asked to call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

New Temporary Taskforce

Metropolitan Police Service Commissioner Sir Ian Blair today announced the setting up of a new temporary taskforce to bring together and co-ordinate the Met's response to violent crime involving young people in South London.

The announcement followed a meeting called the Commissioner with senior Met police officers at New Scotland Yard on 15.2.07. The taskforce will build on and enhance the Met's current activities in tackling violence, particularly gun violence, through Operation Trident, the Violent Crime Directorate, our armed response capability and borough-based officers. It is being led by Commander Paul Minton from the Territorial Policing command.

Sir Ian said the new taskforce would coordinate resources to help bring violent offenders to justice, disrupt any escalation in violent activity and reassure the public. It would not involve, he said, armed officers on routine foot patrol on the streets but there will be an increase in intelligence-led armed interventions (Operation Neon) and high visibility policing in certain locations.

The Commissioner also revealed that he had spoken to the Home Secretary this morning who was sympathetic to Sir Ian's request that the minimum age for a mandatory five-year prison sentence for possession of firearms should be reduced to 17.

On Friday 16th February Commissioner Sir Ian Blair met with individuals active in their communities to discuss recent firearms incidents involving teenagers across London. Everyone agreed that the situation was utterly and totally unacceptable. The representatives present expressed a strong desire to work with the police and underlined the significance of community leadership and partnership in stopping further lives being wasted.

It was recognised that a lot of good work is being done at a local level involving community groups, churches, the police and local authorities and that most young people were not involved in gun crime and make a positive contribution to their local areas.

The issues raised will now be taken forward through meetings with smaller numbers of people chaired by Commander Paul Minton.

The temporary Taskforce in Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham is to offer reassurance to communities and disrupt criminals working in these areas.

Over the coming days hundreds of officers will be working alongside their borough colleagues to tackle gun crime, and other serious violence involving weapons, and in support of local communities.

Safer Neighbourhoods Teams have been out on the streets providing a high visibility presence, and have been joined by colleagues from the Mounted Branch, dog support unit, territorial support group, and other borough colleagues.

Officers from the Specialist Firearms OCU (CO19) is boosting the number of armed response vehicles and will be conducting a number of Neon operations across the boroughs. Operation Neon is run by officers from the Territorial Support Group, Automatic Number Plate Readers (ANPR) teams and CO19. It uses intelligence to direct armed stops on cars that are believed to be associated with firearms.

Operation Trident, and officers from the Specialist Crime Directorate will be pro-actively carrying out intelligence-led operations on key individuals involved in gun crime.

Commander Paul Minton, said (16.2.07): 'It is vital that we respond to this recent series of events to ensure that everything possible is done to target those involved in this sort of criminality and to engage with local communities to put the fear back onto the criminal.

"You will see an increase in the number of officers out on the streets, and we will be engaged in proactive operations to arrest those involved in gun crime.

'It is with the help of the communities that we will defeat this, if you know anyone who owns a firearm, or has access to a firearm, we would urge you to come forward and speak with us.'

Together we can make our neighbourhoods safer. Anyone who has information about the recent shootings or believes they know someone who has a firearm should contact Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 in the strictest confidence.

You Don't Have to Be Bilingual To Work Here - But It Helps!

With over 300 different languages spoken, London is one of the most diverse cities in the world. When policing the capital, it is vital that Met officers and staff are able to communicate effectively with the communities they work with.

Second languages are useful to Met officers on a day-to-day basis particularly those working on Safer Neighbourhood Teams which are local community policing teams.

Did you know that in Fulham, there is a team of eight officers who between them speak a total of more than 12 different languages excluding English? This enables them to communicate clearly with a wide range of different groups enabling them to provide a better service.

Therefore the Met is now looking to employ more police officers with useful life skills - particularly those who are bilingual. They are also looking to recruit more people who have a good understanding of different cultures, communities and faiths, and those who are from under-represented groups.

An open day for those interested in joining the Met as a police officer is taking place on 23rd and 24th February 2007 at Ealing Town Hall.

Those who attend will be able to find out more about life as a police officer and will gain a wider understanding of what the Met does. Police officers from under represented groups will be present to answer any questions potential applicants might have, as well as representatives from some of the Met's police staff associations such as the Sikh, Greek and Disabled Associations. The Met Careers Team will also be on hand to provide guidance on the application process.

The Met's Director of Human Resources, Martin Tiplady, said:

"Having more officers who are bilingual will further improve the Met's operational capability. The Met has already established the Cultural and Communities Resource Unit - a database whereby officers and staff can register their life skills such as second languages and cultural knowledge. These officers can then be called upon if their specialist knowledge is required to deal with a critical incident more effectively."

The Met's Acting Director of Recruitment, Majella Myers said:

"This event presents a fantastic opportunity to tap into the skills of London's diverse communities encouraging them to join a progressive organisation that will utilise their skills to effectively police London."



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CAREERS



Crime continues to fall across the capital

- Total crime continues to fall in London with the latest figures showing a drop of 6.9% (52,000 fewer crimes) for April to December 2006 compared to the same period last year. Residential burglary is down 7.2% - a drop of over 3,440 offences. Motor vehicle crime has decreased by 3.1%. Crimes involving violence or guns have also fallen with 486 fewer gun-enabled offences, 34 fewer Trident gun crime offences and two fewer homicides. Click [here](#) to view the latest performance statistics for the Met.
- The Met is currently out performing other forces. Quarterly Home Office figures for July to September 2006 show that crimes committed within London are down 7% compared to the same period in 2005. Offences for England and Wales are down 3%.

Successful prosecutions

- Six men responsible for a series of armed robberies across London have been jailed for over 32 years. They were arrested by Flying Squad officers and were responsible for stealing over £150,000 from cash in transit vehicles. Click [here](#) to read more.
- Armed robber Shaun Partleton was jailed for eight years for 18 offences committed against betting shops, post offices and an off-licence in Lambeth. He was arrested after unarmed officers chased him following a robbery at a betting shop in Streatham Hill. Click [here](#) to read more.
- Maria Marchese was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment for attempting to pervert the course of justice and harassment. She had stalked a doctor from east London for two years and fabricated evidence against him alleging that a rape had taken place. Click [here](#) to read more.
- Harrow IT teacher Nigel Palmer was jailed for four-and-a-half years for sex offences including making indecent images of children and indecent assault against a 14-year-old boy. He was also found in possession of over 1,340 indecent photographs of children. Click [here](#) to read more.
- Hiren Rawal, Tushar Dodhia and Kamran Mehboob were jailed for a total of 28 years for conspiracy to supply drugs. They were arrested in Harrow in July 2006 and officers seized 10kg of heroin, four firearms and £65,000 in cash.
- Two men have been jailed for rapes committed over 10 years ago. David Decoteau violently raped a shop assistant in 1996. He was connected to the crime after the Met's Cold Case Rape Investigation team reviewed the case using new DNA techniques. Ricky Anthony Brown was arrested after his DNA matched that of a rape in 1993 in Orpington. Click [here](#) to read more.
- Sun Hayz Choy was jailed for life having pleaded guilty to the murder and robbery of Yuk Ying Phuah. He was arrested in Holland following an international operation.

Safer Neighbourhoods milestone

- Safer Neighbourhoods teams across London now have at least three PCSOs, two PCs and a sergeant for each of the 630 wards in the capital. The Met has launched a new advertising campaign designed to encourage communities to engage with their local teams. The Safer Neighbourhoods programme has grown from approximately 1,700 officers in March 2006 to more than 3,700 officers in January 2007. Click [here](#) to read more.
- To contact your local Safer Neighbourhoods team, simply visit the [Safer Neighbourhoods website](#) and enter your post code in the search engine.

Borough results

- Marylebone officers arrested more than 500 people during a major operation to crackdown on crime in the Oxford Street area over the Christmas and New Year period.
- CaféWatch was launched in Westminster to reduce crimes committed in cafes and restaurants across the borough. Click [here](#) to read more.
- 29-year-old Barrington Boothe was sentenced 12 years for the sexual assault, kidnap and rape of two women in Wood Green during February 2006.
- Officers from the Kings Park Safer Neighbourhoods team uncovered an illegal DVD factory. Over 3,000 counterfeit DVDs were seized.
- Police in Bromley have launched the Met's first dedicated Safer Transport team. The team of dedicated PCs and PCSOs will patrol bus routes in the area.



Working together for a safer London

Latest crime figures for London

Key Achievements

- Total crime continues to fall. Latest figures show a drop of 6.9% for April to December 2006 and almost 52,000 fewer crimes than at the same point last year.
- Crimes involving violence or guns also fell. There were 486 fewer gun-enabled offences in the capital, 34 fewer Trident gun crime offences and there were two fewer homicides.
- Residential burglary is down 7.2% - a drop of over 3,440 offences. Motor vehicle crime has decreased by 3.1%.
- The challenge still remains in tackling robbery – with a 2.5% rise in offences to date compared to the same period last year. However the number of robberies solved has gone up.
- The clear up rate for crimes such as burglary, violent crime, domestic violence and crimes motivated by racism or homophobia has notably increased and is above the MPS average.

<http://www.met.police.uk/crimefigures/>

Data in relation to Stop and Search can be obtained at the following link

<http://www.met.police.uk/stopandsearch/>

Metropolitan Police Faith & Race Hate Crime Report overview

The figures quoted in the following tables and graphs, have been provided by the Performance Information Bureau (PIB).

Faith Hate – Both the conflict in Israel and Palestine and Operation Overt (the terrorist plot at Heathrow Airport on 10th August) have contributed to August's, and September's, increased number of reported incidents. The speech made by Pope Benedict XVI that created considerable concerns within Muslim community may have also contributed to September's figures being the highest month this year. October's figures are similar to the previous two months. This period coincided with Ramadan and Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur that has made the Muslim and Jewish communities respectively more visible as well as controversy over public comments made about Muslim women wearing a veil. November's figures are lower than previous months mirroring a trend observed in each of the last two years. The lower figures may also be related to the lack of major religious festivals in November making many communities less visible. December's figures continue this downward trend following a pattern also experienced in the same month in each of the last two years. Though January's figures are an increase on both last month's figures and the corresponding month in each of the last two years, anecdotal evidence suggests that late reporting may have contributed to the low monthly total for December and January's comparative increase.

N.B. Faith Hate incidents are a count of crime reports that have been identified as faith hate crimes.

February's figures are incomplete

Date	Faith Hate 2004/2005	Faith Hate 2005/2006	Faith Hate 2006/2007
April	74	38	72
May	60	57	69
June	49	82	54
July	75	303	74
August	35	155	87
September	56	78	97
October	61	93	90
November	53	66	67
December	43	50	40
January	43	38	50
February	48	68	28
March	59	75	
Totals	656	1103	728

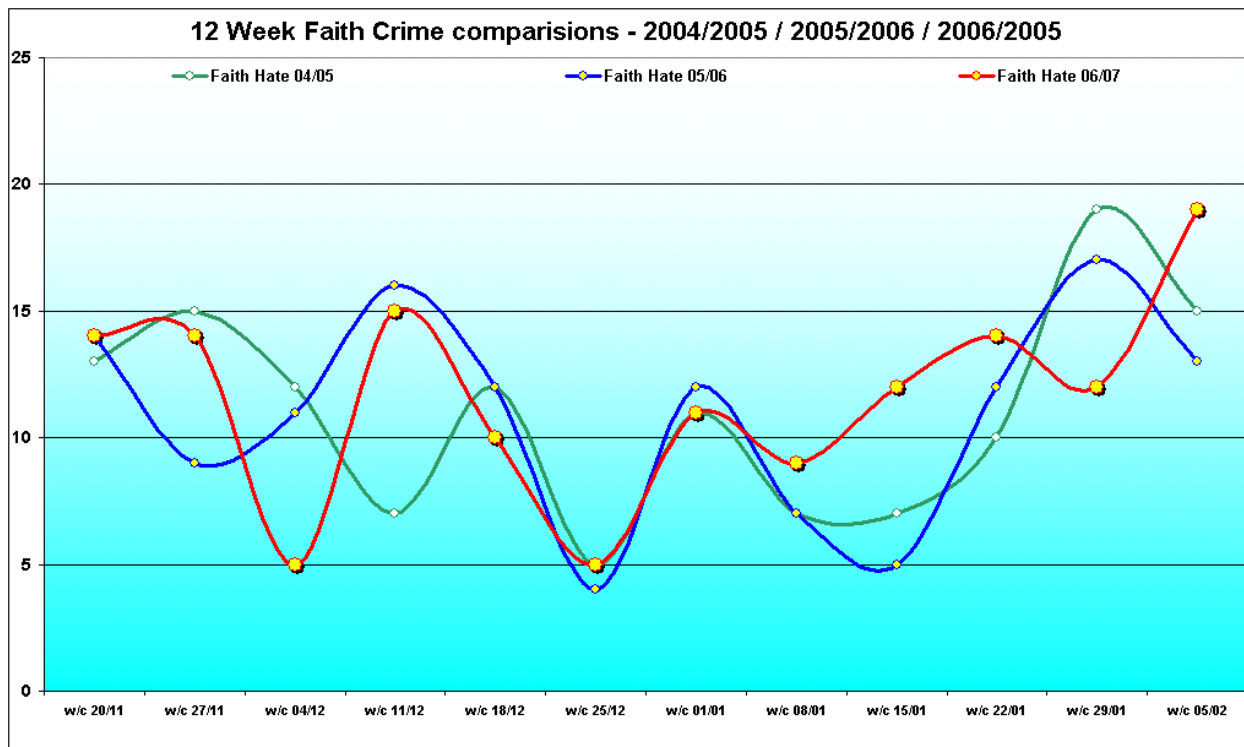
w/c = week commencing

All Hate Crime – It is expected that a considerable percentage of racial incidents are affected by the incidents that strongly affected faith crime figures. Despite an increase in March 2006, monthly figures appear to be on a continuing trend of being lower than the previous years. The figure for the Financial Year To Date thus far appears to be consistent with, or lower than, previous years. The total for both June and July was higher than previous months though lower than the corresponding period in 2005 and 2004 indicating more of a seasonal trend rather than a specific causal factor this year. Figures for August are lower than July and also the corresponding month for each of the last two years. Figures for September were similar to August though lower than the corresponding month in each of the last two years. October represents the lowest month since April 2006 that bucks a seasonal trend experienced over the last two years. In both 2004 and 2005, October contained the highest number of hate crime offences in the autumnal/ winter months. November is lower than previous months and is expected to decrease further throughout the winter months. December's figures continue this downward trend that follows a pattern also experienced in December in each of the last two years. January's figures, though marginally higher than those for December, are significantly lower than the corresponding month in the last two years.

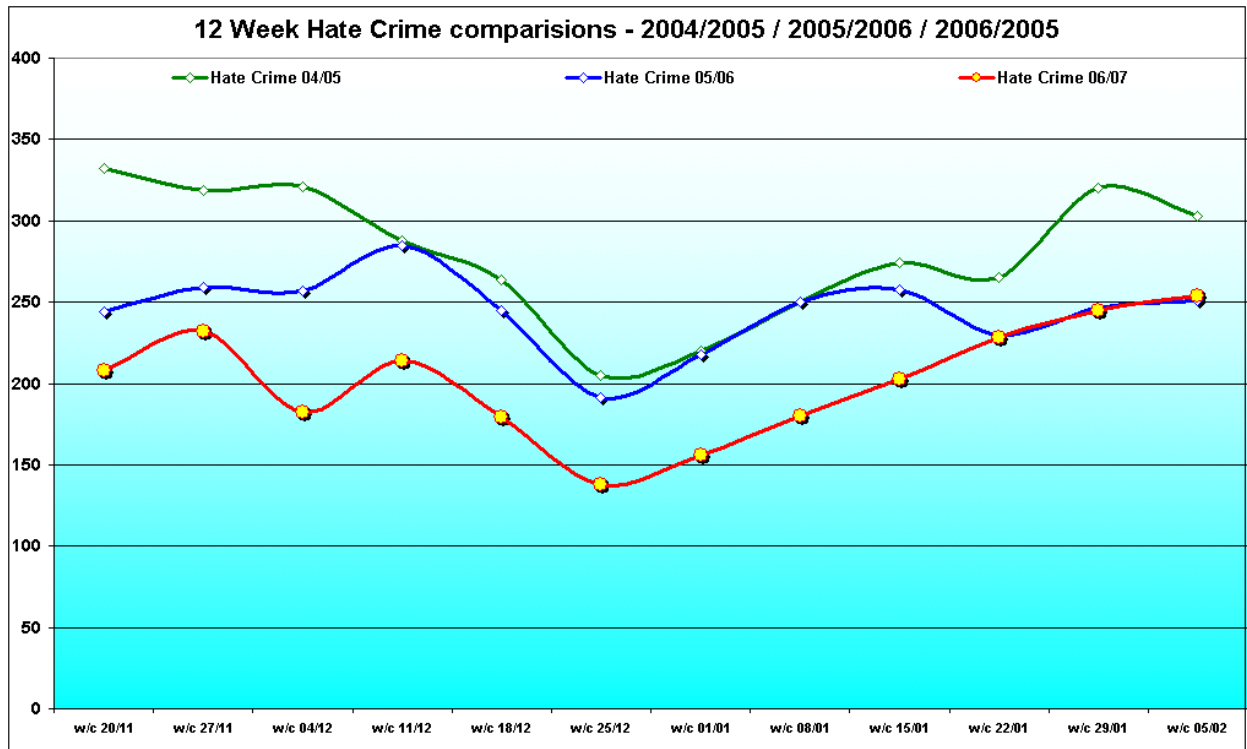
February's figures are incomplete

Date	Hate Crime 2004/2005	Hate Crime 2005/2006	Hate Crime 2006/2007
April	1565	1295	1059
May	1611	1304	1135
June	1504	1449	1222
July	1725	1841	1325
August	1436	1551	1194
September	1277	1366	1134
October	1457	1371	1052
November	1327	1211	956
December	1151	1101	817
January	1271	1050	868
February	1150	983	406
March	557	1141	
Totals	16031	15663	11168

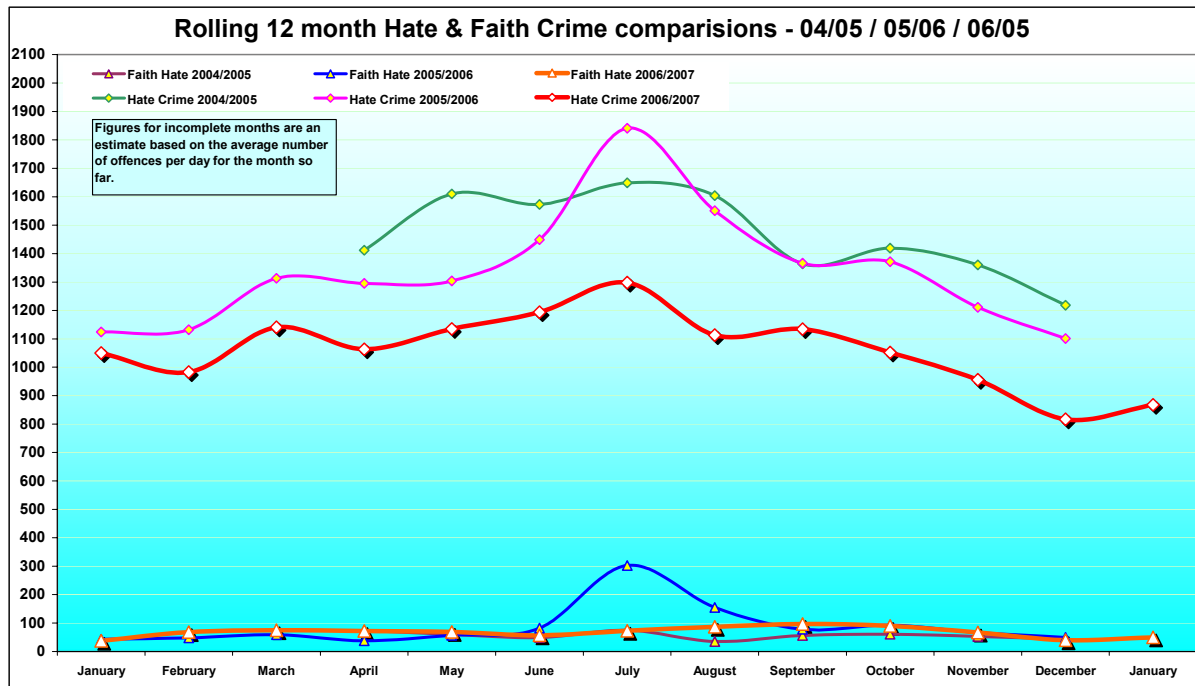
Faith Hate crime - Year on Year comparison – Last 12 weeks' figures



All Hate crime - Year on Year comparison – Last 12 weeks' figures



All Hate crime - Year on Year comparison – Rolling 12 months figures



UK Threat levels



Mi5 The Security Service

More information on threat levels can be found on the MI5 website:

www.mi5.gov.uk

www.mi5.gov.uk/output/Page269.html



Information for people intending to travel overseas can be obtained from Foreign and Commonwealth Office

www.fco.gov.uk

www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1007029390572

Key Dates and Events

The following link to will take you to the Metropolitan Police Website where a list of forthcoming events in London that are likely to involve road closures or to cause significant disruption can be found. This information is compiled by the Metropolitan Police CO11 Public Order unit as part of its task of helping to enable large events to take place while minimising disruption to the public.

- [20th January 2007](#) - March and rally
- [28th January 2007](#) - Parade and ceremony
- [18th February 2007](#) – Parade
-

www.met.police.uk/events/index.htm

If you wish to organise a protest march visit:

http://www.met.police.uk/publicorder/protest_march.htm

****** Useful contacts ******

Anti-Terrorist Hotline	Communities Together Help and Advice Line
0800 789 321	0800 028 2390 or 0800 028 6522 for minicom users
	CommunitiesTogether@met.police.uk

To register for bulletins

www.police.uk and follow the 'Police Message Broadcast register here' link

How do I report hate crime?

Contact your local police station. You can also report crime or information online through www.police.uk

If you'd feel more comfortable giving information about hate crime to someone else, these organisations can help:

Fair Forum Against Islamophobia and Racism

www.fairuk.org

Muslim Safety Forum

0207 375 1811 or 0207 375 1812

www.muslimsafetyforum.org

Muslim Women Talk (website for all Muslim women, from all walks of life)

www.muslimwomentalk.com

Sikh Secretariat

www.sikh-secretariat.com/sikh_incident_form.htm

Hindu Forum Britain

020 8965 0671

www.hinduforum.org

The Community Security Trust (for members of the Jewish community)

020 8457 9999

www.thecst.org.uk

Commission for Racial Equality

020 7939 0178

www.cre.gov.uk

Galop (For members of LGBT communities)

0207 704 2040

www.galop.org.uk

Victim Support	Crimestoppers (anonymous)
0845 30 30 900	0800 555 111
www.victimsupport.org	

A "Communities Together" leaflet has been produced that provides details of organisations that can help you if you have been a victim of prejudice or hate. This can be ordered from the MPS Publicity Department on 020 7230 3644 or via your local police station.