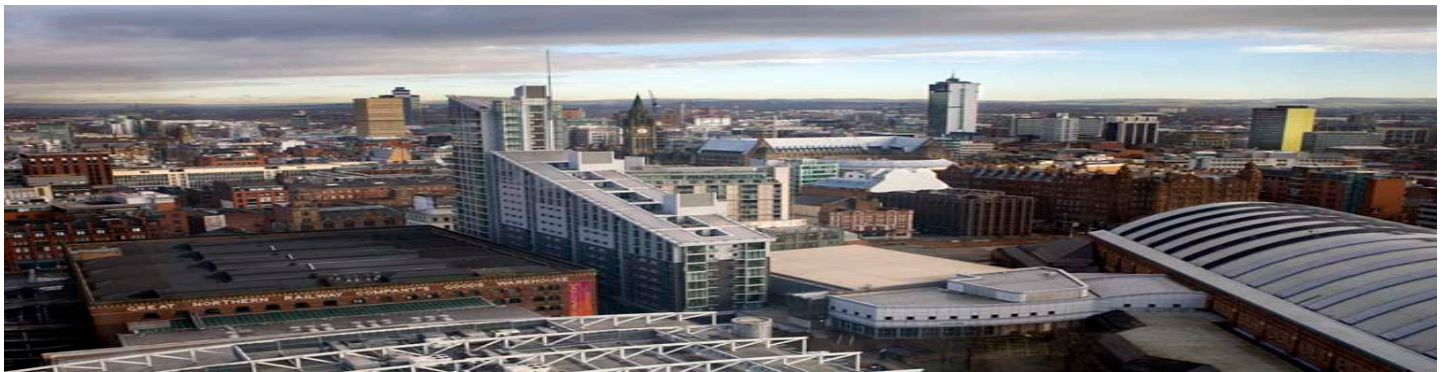




GREATER MANCHESTER  
**POLICE**



## CITY CENTRE WEEKLY UPDATE



### Castlefield & Southern Gateway

The SG team have had a huge reduction in theft from motor vehicle and burglary offences over the past week with a 95% reduction thanks to some good old policing and crime prevention advice. Along with this further preparations are well under way for the return of 'Fresher's' week in September which will also launch our student operation.

Last week around Castlefield there have been a number of suspicious circumstances. The team are asking people to stay vigilant and to lock doors & windows, remove valuables out of sight and don't allow tailgating; do you know who you're letting in?



### China Town

PC Rick Grace & PCSOs Phil Brown & Mark Pickford this week have been out providing reassurance to our key contacts and businesses in the area and assisting with any concerns ahead of the Manchester derby on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. There will be a large policing operation in place for not just the game but before and after the match.

Along with this the team have made further progress in relation to the long term development plan, for the area around the Pagoda. This plan includes and has been welcomed by our partners who will be assisting in the upgrading of lighting, ground maintenance & car park patrols. Too finish the last stages of planning are in place for the China Town dragon boat race and community day so more details as they come in on this...



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This week brings about the launch of the Piccadilly Gambling Banning Scheme, which is a long term initiative aimed at driving out those individuals who are in Piccadilly solely to engage in antisocial and criminal behaviour. The police, City Co, and each gambling premises have come together and set about to ban those individuals from entering any gambling shop across Piccadilly, and stop them using such premises as places to hide from the police. Doing this, we will send out a strong message to these individuals that we will not tolerate any such behaviour in our city!

The team this week have also continued to focus on building to the list of key contacts within the community. These contacts range from shop owners to residents, literally anyone can be key contact. The local beat contacts are in a great position as they receive regular visits whilst on patrol, information on operations/initiatives and become the first to see this very newsletter. If you're interested in becoming a contact let the team know, [a1apt@gmp.police.uk](mailto:a1apt@gmp.police.uk).

## Piccadilly Gardens



## Commercial District

It's been a busy week for the Commercial team this week with some great local policing leading to fantastic results which I'll touch on shortly. Firstly this week the team held a 'Coffee with Cops' event at Costa Coffee. These are great and serve as a dual purpose; firstly it's a great engagement tool, a local cop in your local brew stop. Secondly it's a huge visible deterrent to the undesirables who think they'll help themselves to your property and get away with it. With this PC Shaw & PC D'Souza have been out in plain clothes in the busy restaurants and Coffee shops, actively seeking out and targeting such people.

This brings me on to a great result from court this week After months of work from the Commercial officers, C.I.D and partners a man who had committed 12 theft from person offences in coffee shops recently has been jailed for 2 years 6 months. This result we hope will be a welcomed one, knowing such an individual is now behind bars.

## The Village

The village team this week have continued to do what neighbourhood policing is all about, getting out and about on patrol tackling local issues that affect local people. Along with the Hi-Vis patrols throughout the Village area, the team have also been involved heavily in two operations in the area. The first being Operation Custodian which is our night-time economy operation and gives us additional resources such as mounted horse unit, tactical aid unit & pro-active unit to name but a few.

The second operation which is a City wide initiative is Operation Shield, this involves plain clothes teams out in the City targeting individuals who target 'You'. This operation has already had some fantastic results with one incident resulting in 3 youths being arrested and charged with a number of robberies around the Canal Tow Path area. Remember when you're out pace your drinks, stay with friends & watch your property.



## Northern Quarter

Where shall I start? The NQ team have had another busy week with some key arrests, court results and crime prevention events. Firstly there were 3 great arrests last week by our very own PC Andy Costello who swiftly responded to bogus charity collectors around Spear St. All 3 are now awaiting court appearances so more to come on this. This week the team have also been taking positive action after reports of street drinking to the rear of the Art & Craft Centre. Anti-social behaviour won't be tolerated and these individuals paid the price when their alcohol was disposed of.

Finally in August last year a woman was raped within the NQ area to which a man was later arrested. He later appeared in court and was found guilty last week and sentenced to 9 years in prison. We would like to thank the community for their assistance in light of such a distressing incident.



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