

AVZ Briefing - Road danger reduction and key offences: how the Metropolitan Police compares to other police services

8th September 2025

Key points

- London through TfL and the GLA has led the country on reducing road danger in Britain, e.g. 20mph limits, Direct Vision Standards with lorries, and speed limiters in buses and TfL's fleet. But to be complete, the picture should include work by the police as well. Yet the statistics show the Metropolitan Police (Met) are lagging behind, rather than leading, on traffic law enforcement for three offences that are key to reducing road danger.
- Based on offences completed, per person Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) for 2023, amongst the 40 police services, the Met ranked:
 - 16th for speeding offences
 - 13th with careless driving offences
 - 7th with mobile phone offences.
- If the Met had performed as well as the leading police services, there would have been:
 - Four times as many speeding offences
 - Twice as many careless driving offences
 - Three times as many mobile phone offences.
- London has invested in speed enforcement and the 2024 stats should show improvement by the Met. But no such progress is expected with careless driving and mobile phone offences, the offences most likely to be reported by the public.
- **AVZ call: The next London Vision Zero Action Plan should include the aim of the Met leading the country in enforcement of speeding, careless driving and mobile phone use. This will require investment in both speed enforcement and public reporting of road crime.**

Enforcement comparison – key offences on a per KSI basis (2023)

Here the amount of enforcement conducted by the Met is compared with other police services. The comparison is for three offences key to reducing road danger: speeding, careless driving and mobile phone offences. The comparison is for 2023, the most recent year where there is motoring offence data available for completed offences.

Data is from the Home Office (HO) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The MoJ reports motoring offences involving arrests whilst the HO reports all other offences. The HO reports over 80% of motoring offences.¹ The MoJ reports in May but the HO does not publish its annual statistics until October at the earliest. A comparison for 2024 will be produced after the HO publishes its data in 2025.

And to be clear, the comparison is based on the offences sanctioned out of court and those convicted at court. This is different from the London Vision Zero Enforcement Dashboard (LVZED) which shows offences started, i.e. including offences later cancelled. This amounted to 47% of speeding offences reported by the LVZED in 2023.

¹ In London, court prosecutions for offences detected by the City of London Police are classified under the Metropolitan Police. This increases, i.e. inflates, the offences sanctioned by the Met but by a small amount.

Speeding (Table 1)

Compared to other police services, with 386,595 speed offences completed in 2023, the Met came out 16th, with 105 speeding offences per KSI. Warwickshire led with 420 speeding offences per KSI.

If the Met had done as much speed enforcement as Warwickshire (on a per KSI basis), there would have been four times as much enforcement. This would mean over another million offences (1,157,016) for a total of 1,543,611. But it should be noted that the Met has increased its speed enforcement since 2023 and should score higher in 2024.

Careless driving (Table 2)

With 7,533 careless driving offences completed in 2024, the Met ranked 13th with 2.1 offences per KSI. Essex reported the highest with 4.3 careless driving offences per KSI, double that of the Met.

If the Met had enforced careless driving as Essex did (on a per KSI basis), another 8,354 careless driving offences would have been sanctioned, for a total of 15,887.

Mobile phone (Table 3)

In comparison, the Met fared better with mobile phone offences. Here, with 8,609 mobile phone offences completed in 2023, they ranked 7th with 2.3 offences per KSI. Their neighbour, the City of London Police, ranked highest with 7 offences per KSI, three times that of the Met.

If the Met had sanctioned mobile phone offences at the rate that their neighbour, the City of London Police, had done, there would have been another 17,013 mobile phone offences, for a total of 25,622.

AVZ call

The London Vision Zero Action Plan is based on road danger reduction and is a joint strategy with the Met. London has done much groundbreaking work on reducing road danger, including installing Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA) in its buses and TfL's own fleet of vehicles. Speed enforcement over the last five years has greatly increased. See Table 4. London also deserves praise for the expansion and enforcement of 20 mph limits.

But as shown above, more is needed, especially with speed enforcement and careless driving. The next London Vision Zero Action Plan should include the aim of London leading the country on enforcing the key offences of speeding, careless driving and mobile phone use—all key to reducing the harm posed to people walking and cycling.

Data sources

[HO \(2024\) Fixed penalty notices \(FPNs\) and other outcomes for motoring offences statistics](#)

[MoJ \(2024\) Criminal Justice System Statistics publication: Outcomes by Offence 2010 to 2023: Pivot Table Analytical Tool for England and Wales](#)

Note: Data can be [accessed here](#)

Table 1: Speeding offences per reported KSI (2023)

Rank		KSI	Offences	Speeding offences/ KSI
1	Warwickshire	292	122,749	420
2	Avon and Somerset	572	123,946	217
3	Devon and Cornwall	750	145,819	194
4	Durham	247	44,065	178
5	West Mercia	528	89,756	170
6	Bedfordshire	288	43,987	153
7	Greater Manchester	799	114,711	144
8	Northamptonshire	386	55,034	143
9	Thames Valley	902	122,862	136
10	North Yorkshire	570	72,289	127
11	Surrey	729	91,531	126
12	Staffordshire	313	38,123	122
13	Norfolk & Suffolk	782	86,514	111
14	Gloucestershire	383	40,454	106
15	West Yorkshire	1,453	153,368	106
16	Metropolitan Police	3,672	386,595	105
17	Essex	867	85,209	98
18	Leicestershire	459	43,484	95
19	Cumbria	298	27,636	93
20	Humberside	514	47,054	92
21	Hertfordshire	413	37,269	90
22	Lincolnshire	596	49,363	83
23	Cheshire	447	34,107	76
24	Merseyside	694	52,906	76
25	City of London	45	3,280	73
26	Northumbria	522	37,488	72
27	South Yorkshire	841	55,590	66
28	Cambridgeshire	428	27,126	63
29	North Wales	365	23,106	63
30	Sussex	1,048	63,033	60
31	Lancashire	1,011	54,755	54
32	Dorset	413	20,722	50
33	Nottinghamshire	580	27,244	47
34	Cleveland	211	9,725	46
35	West Midlands	1,087	47,165	43
36	Hampshire	1,199	49,526	41
37	Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales	1,015	39,241	39
38	Kent	917	26,967	29
39	Derbyshire	635	16,179	25
40	Wiltshire	355	8,937	25
	England and Wales	27,626	2,618,915	95

Table 2: Careless driving offences per reported KSI (2023)

Rank		KSI	Offences	Careless driving per KSI
1	Essex	867	3,751	4.3
2	Northumbria	522	2,040	3.9
3	City of London	45	162	3.6
4	West Yorkshire	1,453	5,148	3.5
5	Cheshire	447	1,562	3.5
6	Greater Manchester	799	2,682	3.4
7	Norfolk & Suffolk	782	2,232	2.9
8	Devon and Cornwall	750	1,933	2.6
9	Northamptonshire	386	969	2.5
10	Staffordshire	313	751	2.4
11	Warwickshire	292	677	2.3
12	Thames Valley	902	1,914	2.1
13	Metropolitan Police	3,672	7,533	2.1
14	Humberside	514	1,035	2.0
15	West Mercia	528	1,014	1.9
16	Avon and Somerset	572	1,025	1.8
17	Hertfordshire	413	683	1.7
18	South Yorkshire	841	1,252	1.5
19	Lancashire	1,011	1,497	1.5
20	Merseyside	694	1,024	1.5
21	Durham	247	364	1.5
22	Cumbria	298	433	1.5
23	Wiltshire	355	493	1.4
24	Hampshire	1,199	1,381	1.2
25	West Midlands	1,087	1,224	1.1
26	Surrey	729	794	1.1
27	North Wales	365	394	1.1
28	North Yorkshire	570	613	1.1
29	Cleveland	211	226	1.1
30	Dorset	413	432	1.0
31	Cambridgeshire	428	446	1.0
32	Bedfordshire	288	275	1.0
33	Lincolnshire	596	561	0.9
34	Kent	917	827	0.9
35	Sussex	1,048	924	0.9
36	Derbyshire	635	551	0.9
37	Nottinghamshire	580	484	0.8
38	Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales	1,015	826	0.8
39	Leicestershire	459	358	0.8
40	Gloucestershire	383	276	0.7
	England and Wales	27,626	50,768	1.8

Table 3: Use of mobile phone offences per reported KSI (2023)

Rank		KSI	Offences	Mobile phone offences per KSI
1	City of London	45	314	7.0
2	Greater Manchester	799	3,167	4.0
3	Staffordshire	313	1,049	3.4
4	Cheshire	447	1,434	3.2
5	Norfolk & Suffolk	782	1,887	2.4
6	Metropolitan Police	3,672	8,609	2.3
7	Kent	917	2,129	2.3
8	Merseyside	694	1,572	2.3
9	Surrey	729	1,516	2.1
10	West Mercia	528	1,085	2.1
11	Wiltshire	355	698	2.0
12	Essex	867	1,642	1.9
13	Northumbria	522	960	1.8
14	Durham	247	407	1.6
15	West Yorkshire	1,453	2,335	1.6
16	Thames Valley	902	1,366	1.5
17	Warwickshire	292	440	1.5
18	Northamptonshire	386	558	1.4
19	Lincolnshire	596	827	1.4
20	Humberside	514	662	1.3
21	Cumbria	298	371	1.2
22	Cleveland	211	241	1.1
23	Leicestershire	459	512	1.1
24	Avon and Somerset	572	637	1.1
25	Devon and Cornwall	750	831	1.1
26	Hertfordshire	413	414	1.0
27	South Yorkshire	841	828	1.0
28	Gloucestershire	383	369	1.0
29	Cambridgeshire	428	400	0.9
30	North Wales	365	340	0.9
31	Hampshire	1,199	1,087	0.9
32	Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales	1,015	893	0.9
33	North Yorkshire	570	463	0.8
34	Lancashire	1,011	821	0.8
35	Nottinghamshire	580	460	0.8
36	West Midlands	1,087	844	0.8
37	Dorset	413	269	0.7
38	Bedfordshire	288	183	0.6
39	Sussex	1,048	602	0.6
40	Derbyshire	635	345	0.5
	England and Wales	27,626	43,568	1.6

Table 4: Met Police comparison (2023)

	Lead			Met				
	Police service	No. offences	Per KSI	No. offences	per KSI	Rank (out of 40)	Lead police service X Met	Additional offences Met would have done to match lead
Speeding	Warwickshire	1,543,611	420	386,595	105	16	4.0	1,157,016
Careless driving	Essex	15,887	4.3	7,533	2.1	13	2.1	8,354
Mobile phone	City of London	25,622	7.0	8,609	2.3	6	3.0	17,013