



## National Uniform & Equipment Survey 2024

# City of London Police Force Report

**Results: October 2025**

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## Key Findings

This report provides a summary of responses to key questions from the first National Uniform & Equipment Survey for the City of London Police<sup>1</sup>. National results and additional information are available in the main report **here**.

### Respondents and Response Rate

- 82 responses were recorded from City of London Police, representing a response rate<sup>2</sup> of approximately 5% (based on March 2024 total police force headcount)<sup>3</sup>.
- All of the respondents are police officers.
- 22% of respondents identified as female, 48% as male, and 30% did not specify their sex.

### Overall Uniform Experience

- 38% of respondents from City of London Police said their experience of wearing uniform is 'negative' or 'extremely negative', which is significantly lower than the average across the 43 forces in England and Wales of 56%.
- 43% of respondents from City of London Police said their experience is 'positive', while 20% stated they have a 'neutral' experience.
- 26% of respondents from City of London Police said their uniform items interact together 'poorly' or 'very poorly', while 25% said their uniform items interact 'well'.

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<sup>1</sup>Note that this force was not included in the force breakdowns provided in the main report, as a minimum sample size of 100 responses was required. See Section 2.3 of the main report for more details.

<sup>2</sup>Response rates are calculated based on the total force population. Therefore, while, for example, a 10% response rate is reported for the force, the effective response rate among uniformed officers and staff—the intended population for this study—may be higher.

<sup>3</sup>Home Office (2025) Police Workforce, England and Wales, 31st March 2025: data tables [Dataset]. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-open-data-tables>.

- 38% of respondents from City of London Police reported that their uniform items do not interact well together with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), while 36% said their uniform and PPE interact 'well'.

## Uniform Functionality and Fit

- 36% of respondents from City of London Police disagreed that their uniform is fit for purpose, while 44% agreed.
- 56% of respondents from City of London Police agreed that their uniform restricts their movement, lower than the 64% national average.
- 30% of respondents from City of London Police disagreed that their uniform is good quality, but more respondents (38%) agreed that their uniform is good quality.
- 35% of respondents from City of London Police said their uniform does not fit well, while the majority (54%) said their uniform fits well.
- 28% of respondents from City of London Police disagreed that their uniform is durable, while 39% agreed.
- Almost half (49%) of respondents from City of London Police said their uniform is uncomfortable, while a third (33%) said they are comfortable in their uniform.
- 71% of respondents from City of London Police disagreed that their uniform keeps them cool in summer, while 11% agreed.
- 24% of respondents from City of London Police said their uniform does not keep them warm in winter, however the majority agreed (66%). 54% of respondents disagreed that their uniform is waterproof.

## Uniform Items

- 85% of respondents who wear general purpose trousers from City of London Police said this item contributes to a negative uniform experience.

- 70% of respondents who wear general purpose body armour (GPBA) from City of London Police said it contributes to a negative uniform experience, higher than the 61% average.
- 80% of respondents who wear a dress shirt and 62% who wear a bowler hat from City of London Police said these items contribute to a negative uniform experience.
- 59% of respondents who wear a lightweight blouson from City of London Police said this item contributes to a negative uniform experience.
- 53% of respondents who wear a patrol helmet from City of London Police said this item contributes to a negative uniform experience.

## Uniform Access and Stores

- Only 32% of respondents from City of London Police said that obtaining new uniform items is 'easy' or 'extremely easy', while 49% said it is 'difficult' or 'extremely difficult'.
- 87% of respondents from City of London Police reported that they have visited their local uniform store.
- The remaining respondents indicated the following reasons for not visiting a store: 7% did not know it was an option, 3% said it is not an option to visit, and 3% reported they are not allowed to visit a store.
- Among those who had visited a store, 38% stated that items were not available in their size, and 27% said some but not all items were available in their size.
- 17% of respondents from City of London Police received the items they ordered within weeks, compared to the national average of 48%. Most respondents (43%) received items within three months, 18% faced long wait times of three to six months, and 17% waited six months or more.

## Uniform Cost

- 62% of respondents from City of London Police agreed that cost drives uniform decisions, while 8% disagreed.

## Perception of Uniform

- 44% of respondents from City of London Police said they feel professional in their uniform, lower than the average across England and Wales of 51%. 18% said they do not feel professional in their uniform.
- 39% of respondents from City of London Police feel they look smart in their uniform, while a third of respondents (33%) said they do not look smart.
- 48% of respondents from City of London Police feel proud in their uniform, while 13% said they do not feel proud in their uniform.

## Uniform and Health and Wellbeing

- 49% of respondents from City of London Police reported at least one health condition they believe was caused or made worse by their uniform, highlighting clear concerns about the physical impact of uniform wear.
- Among those who provided their sex, 83% of female respondents from City of London Police reported at least one health condition they believe is caused or made worse by their uniform, compared to 62% of male respondents from this force.
- 44% of respondents from City of London Police agreed that their uniform affects their relationship with their body.
- 19% of respondents from City of London Police agreed that their uniform affects their mental wellbeing, while 17% agreed that their emotional wellbeing has been impacted by their uniform.

## Complaints and Sick Leave

- 28% of respondents from City of London Police said they had made a uniform-related complaint.
- For two thirds (75%) of these complaints, no action was taken.
- 7% of respondents from City of London Police have taken time off work due to the negative effects of uniform, higher than the national average of 5%.
- 37% of respondents from City of London Police said that although they had experienced negative effects due to wearing their uniform, they did not take sick leave.
- Some of the reasons cited for not taking sick leave at City of London Police included concerns that taking sick leave would negatively affect work opportunities (7%), and a lack of perceived empathy from line managers (7%).

## Uniform Impact on Retention and Role Choices

- 29% of respondents from City of London Police have made decisions about their current or future roles based on the uniform they must wear. This includes transitioning to a non-uniformed role, choosing a role based on the required uniform, and even leaving the force due to uniform-related issues.

## Thoughts on National Uniform

- 47% of respondents from City of London Police agreed that there should be a national uniform across England and Wales, while 33% disagreed, and 19% feel neutral.