

Reasons for Crime in Whitechapel:

Layout	Alcohol	Prostitution	Discrimination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow, poorly lit alleyways Some areas had such a bad reputation police would refuse to go there e.g. Ewer Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many pubs in Whitechapel Many turned to alcoholism because of hardships This made people reckless and angry so more likely to commit crimes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1888 there were approx. 1,200 prostitutes in Whitechapel Put women at risk of assault but had a bad reputation so could not seek help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigrants were treated with suspicion and often accused of crimes Jewish immigrants suffered under authorities in Eastern Europe so didn't trust police

The **Metropolitan Police** which covered London was the biggest force with 13,319 officers



The Beat

- On foot patrol officers
- Expected to observe for suspicious behaviour to deter crime



WHITECHAPEL c1870-c1900 P2

- H-Division** policed the 176,000 residents of Whitechapel
- Police to population ratio of 1:300 compared to 1:390 for rest of London

- Charles Warren was appointed Commissioner of Metropolitan Police in 1886
- Former army general and used harsh policing methods
- Was unpopular and was forced to resign in 1883



In response to Jack the Ripper in 1888, George Lusk set up a **vigilance committee** to assist operation, but were sent hoax letters



300 letters were sent to police and newspapers claiming to be the murderer

Killed 5 women in 1888 in Whitechapel

Jack the Ripper

Believed murderer had anatomical knowledge so 76 butchers and slaughtermen were questioned

Police used posters, house searches, bloodhounds and uncover officers

Was never caught, police were criticised for this

