

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Safer City Partnership	27 November 2018
Subject: Serious and Organised Crime Board – Annual Review	
Report of: Community Safety Team	For Information
Summary	
<p>This paper reviews the work of the Serious and Organised Crime Board and the three key crime areas identified as a threat to the City. It also touches on recent developments and future meetings. A key, immediate, priority is to identify a new chairperson for the Board.</p>	

Background

1. The Serious and Organised Crime Board first met in July 2016. The Board's functions are advisory; recommending strategic and business direction for the City of London Corporation/City of London Police. The Board's Terms of Reference are attached as an annex to this paper.
2. The Board has met four times this year under the Chairmanship of John Simpson, the LFB representative to the Safer City Partnership. He has recently stepped down from this role following retirement from the LFB. Efforts are currently underway to identify a suitable successor.

SOC priorities and impact

3. The SOC Board was interested in finding out what impact SOC priorities had on partnership agencies i.e. how confident they were in managing the risks and what systems they had in place if the priority became problematic. Overall it was found that partnership agencies were confident in identifying, monitoring and dealing with areas that they had a responsibility for. Their responses revealed a common interest in most of the key crime areas.

HMIC SOC Assessment

4. Earlier in the year, HMIC carried out an assessment of serious and organised crime in the City. HMIC found that the City of London Police had an effective approach to serious and organised crime coupled with a comprehensive understanding of the local community and the threats and risks it faces. Working together in partnership was found to work well but improvements were needed in the force's approach to preventing serious and organised criminals from reoffending.

5. HMIC recommended the development of lifetime offender management system for those involved with serious and organised crime. This type of offender management would require a wide range of investigative and intelligence techniques to monitor individuals as well as working closely with partners and exchanging information so that restrictions could be imposed on those individuals to prevent them from reoffending. Therefore, the City of London Police will be looking at ways of making efficient use of resources and working together in partnership to help dismantle these criminal groups.

Information sharing

6. This has been a recurring issue. Despite the common interest shown in key crime areas, agencies acknowledged problems in sharing data. It was felt that concerns around data sharing regulations were inhibiting collaboration between partners and therefore helpful guidance about sharing information was required.
7. The Community Safety Team was asked to produce guidance on information sharing. This guidance would need to comply with the requirements of the new GDPR provisions which came into force on 25 May. A paper on information sharing agreement was presented and approved at the Safer City Partnership Strategy Group on 31 May 2018. The guidance aims to:
 - identify core legislation supported by effective information sharing
 - clarify GDPR principles when information sharing
 - identify why and how data should be shared and protected by those with a need to know
 - highlight considerations around information sharing
 - remind partners of the importance of the information sharing process for the purposes of safeguarding people, property and the environment, whilst working together
 - support joint understanding of risk and develop shared situational awareness.

Identified priorities

8. A SOC Working Group met on 3 July to review the work of the Board and its initial scoping of serious and organised crime in the City. The meeting looked at what had been achieved and what needed to be done looking ahead. It provided a good opportunity to review the Board's Terms of Reference, partnership agencies and intelligence sharing. It was agreed to focus on the three crime areas identified by the Group as a threat to the City:
 - **Fraud and cyber enabled crime**
 - **Modern Slavery and domestic servitude**
 - **Illicit drugs (cross cutting)**
9. These three areas also fell under the categories of 'vulnerability', 'prosperity' and 'commodity'. These three broad headings are an amendment to the approach the National Crime Agency is taking to respond to the growing complexity of serious and organised crime.

10. As part of the SOC Boards progress towards developing an action plan the Head of the Home Office Serious and Organised Crime Unit, was invited to a meeting of the SOC Working Group on 5 September. The Group discussed comparisons with other local authorities and how it complied with the national SOC model so that it could be confident in addressing challenges in accordance with Home Office objectives.
11. The Home Office's new Serious and Organised Crime Strategy is expected to be available towards the end of the year. Child Sexual Exploitation and online abuse is likely to receive greater prominence in the strategy. The Home Office representative confirmed that the City's priorities were in accordance with the Government's priorities and that we should continue to:
 - align our local profile with the national strategy
 - include our operational work
 - promote the work of the partnership.
12. A performance dashboard (2017/18) on SOC has been drawn up to show the priorities in focus and current position including details of what has been discussed/agreed/actioned. The dashboard will be updated each quarter.

Recent developments

13. A working group has been set up to discuss a risk reduction strategy for drugs in the City. The strategy proposes a series of actions which will require a multi-agency approach, 'pooling expertise and resources'. It is hoped that this increased focus on drugs will lead to a positive and measurable impact and 'reduce the threat to the integrity, reputation and wellbeing of the City of London from drug supply and associated anti-social behaviour and crime'.

Looking ahead

14. The role of the Board is to seek reassurance from members of the partnership about tackling serious and organised crime. Therefore, the Board will continue to ask partnership agencies what they consider to be their emerging priorities and how they capture new information. Future Board meetings will be held quarterly to discuss each priority in turn and to provide partners with the opportunity to raise any concerns about emerging threats to the City.
15. A key priority is to appoint a new chairperson and ensure all appropriate agencies are invited to the scheduled quarterly meetings.
16. The first three meetings of 2019 will seek reassurance from partnership agencies on each of the three priorities identified as a threat to the City. The fourth meeting will review progress on all three priorities and highlight any emerging priorities.
17. This will be undertaken with the help of the national key performance questions (KPQs) and, where appropriate, we can measure how well we are responding to the threats from each of the three priorities.

KPQ1. How comprehensive is our understanding of serious and organised crime threats and vulnerabilities?

KPQ2. How effectively and efficiently are we managing our resources in countering serious and organised crime threats?

KPQ3. How effectively are we developing core capabilities to address emerging serious and organised crime threats?

KPQ4. How effectively are we pursuing serious and organised criminals in the UK, on-line and overseas?

KPQ5. How effectively are we deterring people from involvement in serious and organised crime?

KPQ6. How effectively are we building resilience in the public and private sector against serious and organised crime?

KPQ7. How effectively are we supporting those impacted by serious and organised crime?

18. We will continue to maintain contact with the Home Office SOC team, providing regular updates and seeking advice on good practice.

Community Safety Team

Annex

Serious Organised Crime Board Terms of Reference

1. Background

Organised crime represents a serious risk of harm to the City of London. While the overall numbers of crime in the category of serious and organised crime may be small in the City, it could have an impact on residential, business and visiting communities. Given the nature of these crimes, it could also have an impact on public confidence as well as an increase in the fear of crime.

Local authorities and the police have a duty to protect the wellbeing of their communities. Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, councils have a responsibility to do all that they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in their area. With support of the Community Safety Team, the Safer City Partnership will have access to intelligence, community safety and safeguarding

powers that can prevent criminal activity and minimise the impact on local communities and businesses.

2. Purpose

The Board's functions will be **advisory**; recommending strategic and business direction for the City of London Corporation/City of London Police.

The Board will look at tackling serious and organised crime, with the help of the following functions:

- Crime-reduction: efficient and effective activities to combat organised crime and serious crime are carried out.
- Criminal intelligence: gathering, storing, processing, analysing, and sharing information.

3. Terms of Reference

The Board's Terms of Reference will be in accordance with the National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime which includes eight key priorities or risks posed by serious and organised crime impacting on the UK:

- Child sexual exploitation and abuse
- Firearms
- Organised immigration crime, human trafficking and modern slavery
- Cyber crime
- Money laundering
- Drugs
- Economic crime
- Organised acquisitive crime

The Board will follow Home Office guidance [Serious and organised crime local profiles: a guide](#) 13 November 2014 aimed at the police and local partnerships using Local Profiles to inform their action plans as stated below:

- The police will lead the partnership through the production of Local Profiles.
- Profiles should outline the threat, vulnerability and risk from serious organised crime within the force area.
- Multi-agency action plan to drive work of local partnerships.

- The effect must be to bring the full range of powers to bear against serious organised crime to reduce its impact in the local area.

The Board's activities will also:

- provide a partnership response to threat from serious and organised criminality in the City
- shape priorities for reducing this threat
- ensure that intelligence regarding organised crime is shared effectively among partners to maximise a collective response
- determine how the powers of the police and partners can be brought to bear in order to have the greatest impact on disrupting and dismantling organised crime.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Board will be chaired by an independent chairman and a deputy chairman will be appointed to cover the chairman's absence.

While every effort should be made for senior representation on the Board, nominated representatives will be encouraged to maintain full membership at all Board meetings.

The chairman will ensure that any issues that arise that cannot be resolved are escalated to the Chairman of the Safer City Partnership.

5. Governance and Structure

The terms of reference will be reviewed and agreed by the Board on an annual basis.

The Community Safety Team to consult regularly with the Chairman to ensure scheduled agenda items are pertinent and timely.

A review of effectiveness will be conducted on an annual basis, and findings will be used to improve performance going forward.

Minutes of the Board will be circulated for approval by members. A copy of the minutes will be made available to officers upon request to the Secretariat.

A quarterly activity report will be submitted to the Safer City Partnership and to the Police Committee and Health and Wellbeing Board where appropriate.

Observers may be asked to leave the meeting for closed items. Closed items will be redacted in the version of the minutes that are published

6. Composition

Chairman: John Simpson MSc GFireE

Borough Commander, City of London

Members:

Peter Lisley	Town Clerks Deputy Chairman of SCP, CoL
Jane Gyford	Commander of Operations, CoLP
Esther Gerard-Stewart	National Fraud Intelligence Bureau Regional Organised Crime Units
Rob Ellis	Intelligence and Information, CoLP
Ade Adetosoye/Chris Pelham	Public Health, Education, Social Services, Housing, CoL
Paul Chadha	Legal, CoL
Stuart Webber	National Probation Service or Community Rehabilitation Company
David MacKintosh	Community Safety Team, CoL
Alex Orme	CoLP Authority
Jon Averns/Steve Playle	Trading Standards
	<i>Law enforcement agency leads (HMRC/DWP/UKBA/NCA) - co-optees only</i>
	<i>Other members as and when required</i>

Advisors:

Legal Advisor

Observers:

To be determined by the Chairman

Secretariat:

Community Safety Team

Frequency:

Quarterly meetings