

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Safer City Partnership	27 November 2019
<b>Subject:</b> Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Update	
<b>Report of:</b> Head of Community Safety <b>Report author:</b> Ayesha Fordham - Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer	<b>For Information</b>
<p>This report updates Members on the City of London's commitment to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter, delivered by the Domestic Abuse, Vulnerability and Risk Policy Officer to raise awareness and understanding of sexual harassment and abuse in the night -time economy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The post holder has been working in partnership with Hackney Council and Good Night Out to launch a campaign and training around sexual harassment and abuse in the night-time economy, which forms part of the City of London's commitment to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter. The Charter has been incorporated within the Mayor's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2019-2023. This was done in response to Londoner's asking the Night Czar to prioritise women's safety at night.</p> <p>Since September 2015 the City of London has seen a 55% increase in the number of reported cases of sexual harassment/assaults occurring in licensed venues. The City of London Police have identified that in around 40% of sexual harassment/assault reports, alcohol was a key factor. These statistics indicate the importance of this project.</p> <p>The campaign #ReframeTheNight has been funded by the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA) to ensure any profit generated through criminal acts are used in a positive way for crime prevention.</p> <p>The training element of this project is being funded through the Late-Night Levy and will be offered to licensed venues signed up to the Safety Thirst Scheme, being delivered in February 2020. The training will raise awareness of how licensed</p>	

venues should respond to sexual harassment and abuse, ensuring the victim receives appropriate care and support.

### **Key Points:**

- **POCA Funding**
- **Measuring the Impact of the Campaign**
- **Late Night Levy Funding**
- **Conclusion**

### **POCA Funding**

1. POCA funding has been granted to deliver a campaign raising awareness of sexual harassment and abuse in the night-time economy. The campaign, in partnership with Hackney Council, is due to launch on the 25<sup>th</sup> November which is the start of 16 days of action against Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). The message will be aimed at everyone regardless of gender or sexuality; however, we recognise that sexual harassment and abuse is disproportionately experienced by women. The organisation Good Night Out Campaign have supported the development of the campaign, providing specialist knowledge and expertise around the messaging and delivery.
2. #ReframeTheNight highlights the need for a change in societal attitudes towards sexual harassment and abuse in the night-time economy. The campaign is aiming to challenge people to 'reframe' the common perceptions and myths that are so regularly used when talking about sexual harassment and abuse. #ReframeTheNight has done this through using five different myths and 'reframed' them to reflect the reality of sexual harassment and abuse.
3. The notion of team nights out and socialising with colleagues in the night-time economy is deeply embedded within the culture of the City of London. Employers have a duty of care to ensure their employees are safe and protected, through promoting #ReframeTheNight they can actively challenge myths and stereotypes around sexual harassment and abuse.
4. The objectives of #ReframeTheNight are:
  - To raise awareness of sexual harassment/assault that occur during the night-time economy.
  - To promote support services that are available for people who have been affected by sexual harassment/assault.
  - To encourage bystanders to safely take action against any sexual harassment/assault they witness.

- To promote the message that keeping people safe from sexual harassment/assault during the night-time economy is everyone's responsibility.
  - To promote the message to the public that sexual harassment/assault will not be tolerated.
  - To spread the message of the campaign further than the City of London and Hackney.
  - To deliver a coordinated response to sexual harassment/assault.
5. This campaign supports the following agreed SCP priorities:
- Vulnerable people and communities are protected and safeguarded.
  - People are safe from violent crime and violence against the person.
  - People are safe and feel safe in the Night-Time Economy.
6. The campaign will be promoted through:
- Adverts on social media
  - Materials distributed to licensed venues
  - Online support from licenced venues
  - Business Healthy
  - SkyLine Newsletter
  - City of London Police online streams
  - City Corporation Intranet and social media
  - Hackney Council

### **Measuring the Impact of the Campaign**

7. The success criteria for this campaign will be based on:
- The number of people accessing support services for sexual harassment/assault.
  - The number of crimes being reported to the police, via the victim or a third party.
  - Awareness and understanding of sexual harassment/assault that occurs during the night-time economy with the general public.
  - These will be measured through online advertisement and data collected from the City of London Police and Vulnerable Victims Advocate.

### **Late Night Levy Funding**

8. Funding from the Late-Night Levy has been granted to deliver ten training sessions to licensed venues around best practice for keeping people safe from sexual harassment/assault and preventing and responding to these issues occurring on their premises. The training will be offered to licensed venues signed up to the Safety Thirst accreditation scheme and will be delivered in February 2020.
9. Good Night Out Campaign, who are working in partnership with the Mayor of London to support the Women's Night Safety Charter, delivering specialist

training to licensed venues will design a bespoke training session for the City of London, ensuring that the training is specific to the issues presenting within the City of London.

10. The key benefits of the training are that the licensed venues will learn effective ways to prevent and respond to sexual harassment/assault incidents. The training will give the venue staff and management safety standards to work towards and the venues will be given posters to display within their venue. The training will be facilitated by two specialist trainers and will be 2 hours.

11. Participants of the training will:

- Create a shared definition of unacceptable behaviour.
- Receive information about sexual consent and the law.
- Work through real-life scenarios in smaller groups.
- Better understand perpetrator tactics in a nightlife setting.
- Gain empathy regarding the difficulties of disclosing sexual harassment and assault.
- A toolkit for responding with compassion to all disclosures and sharing this with staff.
- Challenge myths related to sexual harassment and assault.

## **Conclusion**

12. The message being promoted within this project is a key part of the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter and VAWG Strategy 2019-2023. #ReframeTheNight has been developed with the funding and support of the Safer City Partnership. The statistics of sexual harassment and abuse taking place in the City of London indicate a need for the message within this campaign to be highlighted. The training will follow on from the campaign in the new year and will ensure this message is embedded within licensed venues, providing venues with the tools to respond and support people affected by sexual harassment and abuse.

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