

Committee: Police	Date: 1 st June 2012
Subject: Community Engagement Update	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police POL 30/12	For Information
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>At your Committee on 27th April, this report was approved in its new format. It was agreed that this regular report would contain only details of issues being raised at Ward Level and what the Force response has been to these issues where appropriate.</p> <p>The Force has undertaken appropriate and proportionate engagement in relation to the recent policing operations as a result of “Occupy” protests.</p> <p>Rough sleeping has appeared as a priority for our community and the Force is taking positive action with relevant partners to address this.</p> <p>All other Wards concerns are detailed at Appendix A. It shows numbers of actual incidents dealt with by CoLP and actual numbers of issues raised by members of the Community at Panel meetings and through other engagement with Ward Officers. The correlation is clear.</p> <p>Details of significant meetings and events from this reporting period are in Appendix B for the information of Members.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that the report be received and its contents noted.</p>	

Main Report

Background

1. At your Committee on 27th April, the new reporting format for this regular report to your Committee was agreed. It will contain only details of issues being raised at Ward Level and what the Force response has been where appropriate.

Occupy LSX

2. The Occupy Movement held a demonstration in the City as part of their wider May Day protest. This culminated in a number of protesters in Paternoster Square. Six arrests were made following conditions being placed on their assembly. Stakeholder engagement was carried out prior to, during and after the event
3. An additional protest ensued on Thursday 3rd May outside the City Grange Hotel in Carter Lane targeting the Climate Conference being held at that location. A small number of arrests were made for minor criminal damage offences; and positive engagement was again carried out specifically with the City Grange Hotel, surrounding businesses and residents. The protesters dispersed peacefully following a containment.
4. On Saturday 12th May 2012, twelve arrests were made during the groups 'Meet the 1%' event that started at St Paul's. Several city premises were visited by the group, which comprised of representatives from Occupy London, Anonymous, UK Uncut, and Socialist Workers. Later in the day some of the group started to set up tents near the Royal Exchange. Relevant legislation was used and the group was given 45 minutes to leave, arrests were made appropriately. Stakeholder engagement was through the normal channels.

Other issues raised at Ward Level (see Appendix A for full Ward breakdown)

5. Rough sleeping has now been raised as an issue for both our business and residential community. The number of people sleeping rough in the City had risen dramatically over the last two months to 39. Territorial Policing has engaged with The Safer City Partnership and the City Corporation's preferred rough sleeper outreach charity – Broadway, in order to provide a fresh approach to Operation Poncho.
6. The recent combined partnership approach has proven very successful with the numbers reducing from 39 to 19 as at 4th May.
7. The positive action against begging reported to your Committee in the March report continues.

East Area (Portsoken Ward)

8. Issues in relation to regular anti social behaviour on the Mansell Street Estate have been addressed through level 1 tasking which has seen a decrease in rowdy youths. Activity continues in relation to this Ward concern. The community have begun to raise concerns regarding the proposed reduction in Ward / Community Officers as part of the City First change programme. A message of reassurance will be given to residents and businesses as part of the engagement strategy and through the normal channels, e.g City Wide Residents meeting on the 30th May 2012.

South area

9. No significant concerns since last report.

West Area

10. Concerns continue to be raised in relation to Castle Baynard Ward and Bread Street Ward, regarding the noise from two licensed premises in/ near Carter Lane. A licensing review was held on the 4th May in relation to both of the licensed premises, the result of which is that conditions on an earlier closing time of midnight have been imposed.

North Area

11. The largest numbers of concerns regarding anti-social behaviour (both alcohol and non alcohol related) are still raised in this area; they are borne out by the actual number of incidents recorded, primarily in the Bishopsgate corridor.
12. The top ten licensed premises lists are produced weekly and attention is being given to these licensed premises through targeted tasking for regular visits and patrols. Targeted patrols have resulted in a low number of incidents for both violent crime and anti social behaviour. A number of concerns have been raised in relation to one particular club, which is now subject of a licensing review. Effective tasking has mitigated residual risks associated with this venue. Aldersgate and Cripplegate Wards have raised concerns about cycling on pavements, poor road use around the Barbican with emphasis on footpath cycling in the Beech Street Tunnel. There have been however, four positive comments on Barbican Talk regarding improvements to the junction.

Tactical considerations are ongoing in conjunction with Op Atrium, which is the dedicated Operation for tackling issues relating to cycling.

13. There have been complaints from residents at the Golden Lane Estate about noise emanating from a licensed premises on the Goswell Road on Friday nights. Regular patrols and licensing visits are being undertaken in response to this. A complaint was made to the local MP regarding the matter. Officers met MP Mark Field on the 11th May and took him to the relevant licensed premises to explain the exact nature of the complaints from residents. They then took Mr Field to another licensed premises where there are significant ASB issues being experienced in order to provide context around the Barbican resident complaints. This was received extremely well, and Mr Field is planning another visit to examine the context around the entire night time economy.

Significant meetings /events

14. Details of significant meetings and events from this reporting period are in Appendix B, for the information of Members.

Conclusion

15. This report informs Committee members of community engagement activity undertaken by the Force at Ward level.

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