

Committee: Police	Date: 27 th April 2012	Item no.
Subject: Community Engagement Update		Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police POL 22/12		For Information
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>At your Committee on 16th March, it was noted that as a result of a discussion at the Committee/ ACPO Leadership meeting on 2nd March, 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 undertook appropriate and proportionate engagement in relation to the policing operation to support the City of London Corporation eviction action at the St Paul’s Camp.</p> <p>Begging is still featuring as a priority at the Ward Panel meetings and the Force is taking positive action with relevant partners to address this.</p> <p>Officers have engaged with community members on Portsoken Ward regarding Anti Social Behaviour on the Mansell St Estate. As a result Level 1 Tasking have increased patrols in this area with good effect. 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 16th March, it was noted that as a result of a discussion at the Committee/ ACPO Leadership meeting on 2nd March, this regular report would contain only details of issues being raised at Ward Level and what the Force response has been where appropriate.

Occupy LSX

2. The Lead Member for Community Engagement raised some concerns with the Force regarding the level of engagement around the City of London Corporation action to clear the tents at St Paul's and the associated policing operation to support this. A general message had been sent on the 24th February to the Community regarding the decision not to allow the protesters to appeal. The Ward Team did make phone calls at the point of commencement of the eviction (i.e at midnight on the 27th /28th February) to the Security contacts for the stakeholders in and around the camp area who might be directly affected by the eviction action. This was followed by an I-modus alert once the eviction was underway.
3. Members will be aware that this was a Corporation led action, supported by the Force and engagement was proportionate in order to maintain integrity of the operation and to minimise the risk of disruption of the operation by the protesters. Regular Intelligence updates regarding the Occupy group and its movements continue to inform the Force's community engagement.

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

4. Begging consistently features in the concerns expressed at the Force's two-monthly Community Panel Meetings (CPMs). In response to this issue, Territorial Policing has launched an anti-begging initiative (Operation Reach) in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and the City Corporation's preferred rough sleeper outreach charity – Broadway.
5. Response groups, Wards officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's), Support group and Crime Squad have been taking positive action. The Safer City partnership drug workers have provided

comprehensive briefings to officers including locations and identities of beggars allowing arrest and subsequent drug treatment. This has been immensely useful in building an effective operational partnership.

6. Leaflet drops have been run at mainline stations in conjunction with Wards for 'Your Kindness Can kill' anti begging leaflets, informing the community and beggars 'customers' of the appropriate aid agencies available.
7. The number of drug assessments for beggars has been monitored during the first three weeks of February (31/01/2012 to 24/02/2012) and the Safer City Partnership has provided the following results:
 - There were 17 arrests of 16 individuals.
 - Of the 15 tests carried out; 2 were positive for cocaine and 13 were positive for both opiates and cocaine.
 - 100% of these individuals attended and remained for their initial required assessment with the City Arrest Referral Workers.
 - Of the 16 individuals; 7 were already in treatment and 8 were referred back to the DIP team in their area of residence for a follow-up assessment.
 - Of those referred for a follow-up appointment; 6 have already attended and one is due to attend

East Area (Portsocken Ward)

8. Issues in relation to regular Anti Social Behaviour on the Mansell Street Estate have been raised at Ward Meetings, in addition to regular engagement with the Ward Constable PC Innes. To address this, additional patrol activity has been sanctioned through level 1 tasking which has seen a decrease in rowdy youths (from other estates) congregating on the landings and increased community re-assurance. PC Innes and PCSO Khader additionally accompanied the Bengali Womens Group to the Hajj exhibition at the British Museum.

South area

9. South area concerns have included complaints about inconsiderate behaviour of skateboarders in the Knightrider Street area of the Bread Street Ward. PCSO patrols have been increased resulting in a dramatic reduction of incidents.

West Area

10. Concerns continue to be raised in relation to Castle Baynard Ward and Bread Street Ward, regarding the noise from licensed premises primarily in Carter Lane. Regular licensed premises visits have been undertaken and mandated at level 1 tasking. Inspector Thomas (Licensing) is collating material for a review. The frequency of incidents has reduced.

North Area

11. The largest numbers of concerns regarding anti-social behaviour (both alcohol and non alcohol related) are raised in this area; they are borne out by the actual number of incidents recorded, primarily in the Bishopsgate corridor. The top ten licensed premises lists are produced weekly and bids have been made at level 1 tasking for regular visits and patrols. The Easter patrols resulted in a low number of incidents for both violent crime and anti social behaviour. Cripplegate Ward has raised concerns at a Community Panel meeting regarding the use of police sirens through the Beech Street Tunnel. T/PS Jim Green has raised the matter sensitively with residents and Officers, and satisfactorily resolved the issue with clear operational guidance for the future.

Counter Terrorism

12. Recent CTSA engagement identified a hard to reach part of the business community, in relation to Small and Medium size Enterprises (SME'S). They had not been captured in the project Griffin and Argus security loop, despite their significance to the square mile and beyond. The new City Business connect newsletter attracted very positive feedback, resulting in planning night time Argus presentations for those businesses that cannot release staff during business hours, the first of these is planned for Royal Exchange at their close of business. SME surveys will soon be circulated, which will inform the CoLP of their precise individual requirements.

Significant meetings /events

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

Conclusion

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

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