

Committee(s) Safer City Partnership	Dated: 3 November 2017
Subject: Safer City Partnership Strategic Assessment 2016/17	Non-Public
Report of: Head of Community Safety	For Approval
Report Author: David Mackintosh	

Summary

This report provides the annual assessment of the City of London Safer City Partnership Plan 2016/17.

The report details a strategic assessment of the Safer City Partnership's five priorities:

- Violence Against the Person
- Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance
- Acquisitive Crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Support the Counter Terrorism Strategy through Delivery of the Prevent Strategy -

The Committee are asked to:

- a) Read the assessment and offer any comments
- b) Approve the strategic assessment for 2016/17

Background

1. The Safer City Partnership (SCP) is the Community Safety Partnership for the City of London. Community Safety Partnerships were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

2. They are intended to work together to protect local communities from crime, make people feel safer and respond to local issues of anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse and reoffending.

3. The SCP strategic plan is refreshed annually. This plan is a public document and is sent to the Police Committee. The partnership should also annually assess and review its work. In addition, the SCP is expected to consult with the communities it serves.

4. Membership of the Safer City Partnership includes: the City of London Corporation*; City of London Police*; London Fire Brigade*; London Probation Trust*; Clinical Commissioning Group*; Transport for London, HM Courts Service; Crime Prevention Association and business representatives. (Those marked with an asterisk are statutory partners).

Main Report

The SCP plan for 2016/17 identified five priorities. These were:

- **Violence Against the Person** – to protect those who work, live or visit the City from crimes of violence,
- **Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance** – to promote the City as a safe place to socialise.
- **Acquisitive Crime** – work to protect our residents, workers, businesses and visitors from theft and fraud with an emphasis on cyber-crime.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** – respond effectively to behaviour that makes the City a less pleasant place.
- **Support the Counter Terrorism Strategy Through Delivery of the Prevent Strategy** - challenge radicalisation of vulnerable people and reduce the threat posed to the City.

5. In addition the SCP has also worked with partners to reduce bicycle related accidents and fatalities and has supported efforts to address other areas of concern.

Violence Against the Person

6. Victim based violence showed a slight increase in the number of reported offences from 911 in 2015/16 to 922 in 2016/17. This increase was due to reported incidents of violence without injury which increased from 410 to 481. Reported incidents of violence with injury and sexual offences both fell during this period from 410 to 381 and 91 to 60 reported incidents respectively.

7. The increase in Violence Without Injury during period may be due to a number of factors including the increased reporting of common assaults. There has been more engagement with the community and licensed premises through the Christmas campaign, which could also explain the increased confidence in reporting offences to City of London Police. Violence without injury also includes offences such as threats via social media and email.

8. The 24 hour night tube commenced in September 2016. This would have allowed more persons to enter the City and exit at a later time, particularly around the Christmas period. This could have influenced reporting around violent crimes. However, this is difficult to verify without further analysis. Ongoing work around the Night Time Economy will help improve our understanding of these issues.

9. Another area of work that commenced in 2016/17 was improving the capturing of incidents from A&E departments and ambulance call data. This is progressing via the integrated Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV) programme.

10. In early 2017 the City enhanced its strategic response to violence against the person through the consultation process and subsequent development of the City's Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, with an action plan to deliver the following priorities:

- Access to support
- Raising awareness of ending VAWG
- Ending harmful practice
- Holding perpetrators to account

- Responding to trafficking, prostitution and sexual exploitation
- Addressing harmful attitudes and behaviour at an early age
- Understanding and responding to the health impact of VAWG
- Improving women's safety on public transport
- Learning from Domestic Violence Homicide Reviews and specialist service providers

11. The Community Safety Team also continued to work with partners in delivering training to relevant Corporation staff to provide them with the knowledge to safeguard vulnerable victims in the City.

12. The City Community MARAC continued to progress and embed its function in protecting vulnerable residents in the City through risk assessment sessions with City Estates. The sessions took managers through the CCM process, promoting the value of partnership working and information sharing to reduce harm and provide effective support to our residents

Night Time Economy Crime and Nuisance

9 The number of new licences to provide alcohol continued to increase, as did the number of premises paying the Late-Night Levy, with the Licensing Team carrying out more inspections to ensure licence conditions are being adhered to. The Police Licensing Team has been very proactive in promoting good governance within the licensed premise community and the night time economy. The number of warning letters issued increased although the majority of these were for minor indiscretions.

10. The Licensing Risk Scheme has been enhanced and captures data from the Police, Environmental Health, the Fire Service and the Licencing Team. Potential problem premises are detected before they become a problem which has resulted in the City having one of the lowest number of premises reviews in London. It is hoped to extend the scheme and capture incidents from A&E departments and ambulance calls.

11. The Late Night Levy generated significant additional resource to support activity in the Night Time Economy. 70% of this sum has gone to the City Police in order to support activity to maintain law and order in the night time economy. The remaining monies have come to the local authority and during 2016/17 has been spent on:

- Part funding of resources to permit the Licensing Team to continue to operate the Licensing Risk Scheme.
- Addition cleaning crews to attend to those areas most affected by the night time economy.
- Night time enforcement staff who can respond within one hour to calls of public nuisance.
- A pilot project run by Club Soda aiming to show that there are alternative low alcohol and alcohol-free drinks.

12. Over this period the Licensing Policy was re-written to include additional sections on the protection of children, the prevention of public nuisance and information on the Safety Thirst scheme and the Late Night Levy. The Policy is now easier for licence applicants and holders to understand what is expected of them in the City. Equally it is now easier for members of

the public to find out if premises are not complying with the Policy and how they can raise concerns.

Acquisitive Crime

13. Reported incidents of acquisitive crime increased from 3,181 in 2015/16 to 3,541 in 2016/17 with notable increases in vehicle offences (an increase from 109 to 183 reported offences) bicycle theft (275 to 373) shoplifting (678 to 728) and other theft (1,422 to 1,515). Theft of items within licensed premises and retail premises where belongings are left unattended or insecure is the main attributing factor to the upward trend in Other Thefts performance figures.

14. Operation Broadway continued to thrive and remains a priority for City of London Trading Standards (COLTS). Tasking meetings with partners City of London Police, Met Police Service, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau and the Financial Control Authority have taken place every fortnight and the outputs have been collated in the table below covering 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

	Q1 Apr-Jun	Q2 Jul-Sep	Q3 Oct-Dec	Q4 Jan-Mar	Total
1. Op Broadway deployments	7	8	22	66	103
2. Disruptions/interventions	6	1	5	1	12
3. Referrals to other agencies for action - e.g. City of London Police, Met. Police, FCA, other TS	3	4	8	20	35
3(a) Investigations resulting from Op Broadway intelligence	0	0	0	19	19
4. Contacts with 'enablers' - e.g. mail forwarding businesses, serviced office providers, banks	2	4	6	8	20
5. Promotional / prevention activity - e.g. publicity campaigns, days of action, attendance at external events, press coverage	3	2	5	4	14
6. Op Offspring Visits (SM)	0	0	29	40	69

15. A fixed-term contract Trading Standards Officer was recruited in October 2016 to work on 'Operation Offspring' which is taking the expertise developed within the City of London on 'Operation Broadway' and sharing it with other London Boroughs. Officers in other London LAs have been shown how they can carry out inspections at mail forwarding businesses and serviced office providers in order to make life difficult for investment fraudsters. This is particularly useful where there is anecdotal evidence to show that 'Operation Broadway' has successfully pushed investment fraud out of the City and into neighbouring local authorities and this work will be continuing into 2017/2018 with feedback from our partners very good.

16. The latest trend in investment fraud has been identified to be the marketing of what are termed 'binary options'. COLTS was instrumental in organising a multi-agency meeting to discuss the problem and a project is due to start in Quarter 1 of 2017/18 to identify addresses in the City that may be involved in such criminal activity.

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Control Services

17. In 2016/17 The City of London Corporation spent £783,849 on drug, alcohol and tobacco control services commissioned via Westminster Drug Project (WDP). This activity within the City is promoted as Square Mile Health. During this period, 32 people entered drug or alcohol treatment, with 29 of those completing 12 weeks or more of effective treatment and 6 successful completions.

18. WDP also undertake joint outreach work to rough sleepers with St Mungo's, the City's homeless service provider, providing access to treatment as appropriate. This is proving effective in reaching clients who would not traditionally come in to services, and are unlikely to be in structured treatment.

19. Joint work with the City of London Police continued over the year with WDP having a satellite base located at Bishopsgate Police Station enabling closer working. A substance misuse worker has been providing training to City Police colleagues to support testing on arrest.

20. In addition to treatment, Square Mile Health/WDP have provided prevention and awareness services for both City residents and workers, providing training to employers and employees; offering brief information and advice to people living and working in the City at events, stalls and stands in various locations; and running sessions at the City's libraries.

Anti-Social Behaviour

21. Recorded incidents of ASB increased in 2016/17 over the previous year. This is predominantly due to changes in how incidents were being recorded. More diligent and enhanced recording practices and processes since September 2016 have resulted in higher ASB figures in comparison with previous periods. The nature of ASB incidents recorded for City of London Police has not changed significantly with the most common complaints being Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour and Begging.

22. Following a successful pilot, ParkGuard Ltd were engaged in August 2016 to provide neighbourhood patrols on City of London housing estates, as well as a Guinness Partnership housing scheme within the City and our Open Spaces. The service is intended to provide a visible deterrent, be approachable and to actively engage with the local community.

23. ParkGuard reporting is received by City Police officers and relevant Corporation staff. It helps indicate areas requiring additional intervention and has significantly informed our understanding of the nature of issues faced by residents in the City.

19. While the ParkGuard patrols have confirmed that our estates have relatively low levels of anti-social behaviour they have highlighted areas where we can improve incident reporting and assisted in targeting interventions. Evidence gathered by the patrols has been used to address anti-social behaviour incidents and inform the response to on-going issues on our

estates. For instance, rough sleeping on one City estate is being looked at in conjunction with the City's homelessness team. Resident feedback received has been positive.

20. New technology was introduced to assist officers in providing a robust response to ASB cases. The 'Noise App' was successfully trialled by staff and is due to be implemented shortly. The app allows noise nuisance complaints to be managed by staff more effectively, with complainants using their smart phones or tablets to log complaints and provide evidence (sound recording) directly to officers via the app. The Noise App has been used by other local authorities and registered housing providers with excellent feedback.

21. Issues relating to illegal trading on and around the City's bridges have continued. To combat these problems new options are being examined to allow action against those trading on the margins of the City. Information sharing over the year was supported by the monthly Local Licensing Partnership (LLP) meetings.

Support the Counter Terrorism Strategy through Delivery of the Prevent Strategy

22. Over the last year we continued to support Prevent as part of the Counter Terrorism Strategy. While the City is designated a non-priority area by the Government we have committed a considerable amount of resource to helping deliver Prevent to our communities and staff.

23. This work included the delivery of Workshops Raising Awareness of Prevent to key staff, especially those who directly engage with our communities. Based on our experience over the last two years and feedback from our community partners we also worked on refreshing our Prevent Strategy. This new strategy will provide a fresh focus on supporting City employers in response to an identified need in helping them keep their staff, businesses and the City safe.

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