

Committee(s)	Dated:
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	3 November 2017
Subject: Review of the Serious and Organised Crime Board	Public
Report of: John Simpson Chairman, Serious and Organised Crime Board	For Information
Report author: Jane Anson, Policy Officer, Town Clerks Department	

Summary

At the Safer City Partnership (SCP) Strategy Group meeting on 15 September, the Chairman requested a Review of the Serious and Organised Crime Board (SOC).

This report reviews the work of the Board and outlines details of the Board's strategy, activities, governance arrangements, together with roles and responsibilities. It also offers an indication of the current threat from such different types of crime and what steps will be taken to disrupt organised criminal activities in the City, as well as outlining how the Board will prioritise its work.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report

Main Report

Background

1. Serious and organised crime has long been recognised within the Home Office's Strategic Policing Requirement as a National Threat (together with terrorism, cyber security, public order, civil emergencies and child sexual abuse). The Government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy 2013, sets out under 'the 4 P's' (Prepare, Prevent, Protect and Pursue) the measures expected of law enforcement agencies and other partner agencies to tackle the problem.
2. In the City of London, organised crime has been a priority in one form or another for the City of London Police. Despite overall numbers of serious and organised crime being small in the City, the threats and risks posed by organised crime could have a harmful impact on residential, business and visiting communities, as well as damage to crime performance and loss of public confidence.
3. The Serious and Organised Crime Strategy recommended the establishment of Local Organised Crime Partnership Boards (OCPB) which would include local

authorities and agencies and in the case of the City of London Corporation, the City of London Police (CoLP) to lead the partnership through the production of local profiles. According to the Strategy, the work of these boards should be informed by serious and organised crime local profiles.

4. The SOC Partnership Board was established in 2016 to provide an advisory function; setting a strategic and business direction for the City of London Corporation and the CoLP in order to bring a full range of powers to bear against serious organised crime to reduce its impact in the City (see Terms of Reference in Appendix A).
5. The purpose of the Board was to provide a forum to deliver the most appropriate partnership interventions against the areas of organised crime of most concern in the City. Two Serious and Organised Crime Local Profiles have been produced by the CoLP – the last one was completed December 2016. The third Profile is currently a work in progress and should be completed by the end of November 2017. It is envisaged that the Profile will contain sufficient information to support meaningful decision making by the Partnership Board in respect of work streams for the year ahead.
6. John Simpson (Chairman) and Jon Avern (Deputy Chairman) met with John Pennycook who heads the Home Office's Serious and Organised Crime Unit. His team engage with forces and partner agencies in London and the South East. It was at this meeting that John Pennycook indicated that the City of London SOC Board was one of the most developed in London.

Key crime priorities

7. Bringing OCGs to justice is important but the main focus around work in this area is to disrupt the activity of the groups and make it unviable for them to continue their activities. Following discussions with the Home Office, the SOC Board formulated a plan to look at the eight key crime areas specified in the Government's Strategy:
 - a. Cyber attack
 - b. Fraud and cyber enabled crime
 - c. Financial crime and money laundering
 - d. Modern slavery and domestic servitude
 - e. Organised and acquisitive crime
 - f. Vulnerable persons, including Child Sexual Exploitation
 - g. Intellectual property
 - h. Blackmail and kidnap
8. All but intellectual property, blackmail and kidnap have been presented to the Board and we aim to have the whole list completed by the end of November. Appendix B contains an action sheet showing the key priorities.

Increased Partnership working

9. A key element of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy is the requirement to increase partnership working around organised crime across all agencies. It is widely recognised that different agencies hold important information that would allow the CoLP to exploit more sophisticated techniques to tackle organised crime for example, organised sexual exploitation and modern slavery. Most Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) will remain the lead responsibility of the Police but even in respect of these, partnership agencies have a key role to play in support of the Pursue, Prevent and Protect strands.
10. Serious and organised crime is recognised as a significant threat to both the City of London and the UK as a whole. The Government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy places considerable emphasis on partnership working and it is important that the Board understands what needs to be done to tackle the issue within the City of London.
11. This requirement was emphasised all the more following last year's HMIC's Effectiveness Inspection of the CoLP. This was the second time that SOC had been part of the inspection. As with most forces, the CoLP had the right processes in place to identify and assess organised crime groups and their ability to pursue them. However effective partnership working at a local level required improvement in relation to data sharing: the 'force's ability to use intelligence to develop its understanding of the wider threats from serious and organised crime is hampered by poor intelligence collection and a lack of data from other organisations'. To this end, the SOC Board will seek to increase working ties with partnership agencies to ensure that Organised Criminality is a shared priority, including data sharing protocols. HMIC will be carrying out another inspection in November 2017.

Going forward

12. The Home Office is currently reviewing the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy. The intention is to build on the progress that has been made since the launch of the 2013 SOC Strategy and 'learn from the local initiatives that exist across the country'.
13. The priorities of the review will include:
 - a. Improving intelligence capabilities, information exchange and understanding of the threat
 - b. Articulating the SOC threat and 4P framework more clearly
 - c. Driving a more comprehensive response by increasing focus on building resilience and reducing vulnerability to SOC
 - d. Strengthening emphasis on partnership working and local delivery.
14. With this in mind, all partners have been asked to provide their current priorities and to highlight which of the eight priorities are relevant to their area of service. The aim will be to:

- a. Reduce the number of priorities to three/four.
- b. Ensure that intelligence regarding organised crime is shared effectively among partners to maximise a collective response.
- c. 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.

Conclusion

15. Whilst the threat from organised crime within the City of London is comparatively low, there is no room for complacency. The changing landscape of criminality and emerging organised groups mean that new ways of disrupting criminal activities have to be found. Cyber-crime, human trafficking and organised child sexual abuse all require appropriate partnership arrangements if we are to continue to keep the City a safe place to work, visit and reside.

David MacKintosh, Community Safety Manager

T: 020 7332 3084

E: david.mackintosh@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Annex A

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 John Simpson, a deputy chairman will be appointed to cover for his 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.

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 GIFireE
Borough Commander, City of London

Members:

Peter Lisley	Town Clerks Deputy Chairman of SCP, CoL
Richard Woolford	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
Kate Cinamon	National Probation Service or Community Rehabilitation Company
David MacKintosh	Community Safety Team, CoL
Alex Orme	CoLP Authority
Jon Averbs/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:
Monthly meetings until further notice

Annex B

Serious and Organised Crime – Action Table as at 31.01.17

Key crime area	Issues	Lead partner	Actions	Potential barriers	Expected outcomes	Rag rating (blue denotes completion)
Serious and Organised Crime Profiles	Dashboard of Serious and Organised Crime using the 4 Ps approach	CoLP	Partners to provide/share information	Available resources for analysis. Information sharing agreements		Orange
Cyber attack	Engaging with businesses especially SMEs and encouraging them to report cyber-attacks and what they can do to protect their customer information.	Partners	Counter terrorism contacts: Cheapside Alliance, London Resilience Forum, Policy and Resources Cttee. Mapping business and business rates			Orange
	Raising awareness	Partners	Education: using campaign messages about how to protect from cyber attacks Package protection	Residents especially older vulnerable people can fall victim to cyber attacks Need to circulate as widely as		Orange

			<p>messages for all residents.</p> <p>Cyber protection packages for new businesses</p> <p>Reward businesses that demonstrate that they are cyber compliant e.g. ISO9000</p>	<p>possible.</p> <p>Use the City's security protection service for businesses to encourage engagement.</p>		
Fraud and cyber enabled crime	Invite Home Office to attend SOC meetings for guidance and support	John Simpson/ Jon Avern				Blue
	<p>Developing and moving forward</p> <p>Victims of business crime</p>	All partners	<p>Regular reviews</p> <p>Share details of genuine suppliers in the City</p> <p>Share details of spoof invoices/emails etc so that they can be blocked. Encourage companies to report to the police</p> <p>Circulate alerts to employers on a regular basis</p>	Different commodities emerging/volume	Sharing information protocols -	Orange
	Operation Signature	Partners	City could tap into the	How to get the message out.		Orange

	<p>Raising awareness through education</p> <p>Communication strategy using existing products for schools</p>		<p>HO site about staying safe on line.</p> <p>Workshops with children about warning their grandparents about financial scams.</p> <p>Use social media sites – safe on line.</p> <p>Create a module as part of the PSE programme for schools about staying safe on line</p>			
	Home visits	<p>Fire brigade</p> <p>CoLP Children and Communities (Chris Pelham) Community Safety Team</p>	<p>Potential link to vulnerable people</p> <p>Discussions with Vulnerable Peoples Steering Group</p>	<p>Accessing homes of vulnerable people who live on their own. It will be necessary to enter the homes so that assessments can be made. Need to consider ways of making official visits – one way with community teams can help.</p>		Orange
	Identifying City residents – live on their own/over 65	Partners	Names and addresses	<p>How to identify?</p> <p>Assistance required</p>		

Financial crime and money laundering	Freezing assets/requesting evidence of ownership/recover assets through civil courts	CoLP	<p>Money laundering from drug trafficking – adopt Operation Broadway’s partnership approach.</p> <p>Reinvigorate Project Eclipse.</p> <p>Utilise Safety Thirst to support and advise licensees.</p> <p>Support City employers to raise awareness</p>	<p>Challenges to freezing and recovering assets.</p> <p>Returning assets to victims of financial crime.</p> <p>Criminal Finances Bill 2016-17 will allow more time for ongoing investigations/s having confidential information.</p>		Orange
Modern slavery and domestic servitude	CoL profile focus on sexual and labour exploitation, brothels, construction sites, cleaning and catering		<p>Make it a condition of the CoLC that all service providers includes a living wage in their contracts.</p> <p>List of CoL staff who visit sites etc to be ‘eyes and ears’.</p> <p>Put up Servator posters to deter criminal activity.</p> <p>Monitor</p>	<p>Migrant workers forced to work in private households can be difficult to reach.</p> <p>Markets potential locations for exploitation.</p> <p>Raise awareness - how to spot the signs.</p> <p>Organised peanut selling – intel required/share information with agencies.</p>		Orange

			<p>vacant commercial properties for fast changing ownership and collect information.</p> <p>Current Hotel Toolkit/Operation Makesafe provides information on how to deal with incidences.</p>	Training need identified. For SCP agreement.		
Organised acquisitive crime	Need to raise awareness about keeping personal belongings safe	CoLP	<p>Calendar showing police and Corporation events would be useful.</p> <p>Set up a campaign to get the message across about leaving unattended bags in licensed premises. Posters/locking devices.</p> <p>Enforce licensed holders to put in place measures that remind customers to keep their personal possessions safe.</p>	People leaving bags unattended in licensed premises.		Orange

Vulnerable persons, including Child Sexual Exploitation						
Intellectual Property						
Blackmail and Kidnap						