

Committee(s)	Dated:
Policy & Resources Committee	18 January 2018
Subject: Mayor of London – Women’s Night Safety Charter	Public
Report of: Head of Community Safety Team	For Decision
Report author: David MackIntosh	

Summary

Amy Lamé, The Mayor of London’s Night Czar wrote to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee on 18 December 2017 seeking support for a Women’s Night Safety Charter which is currently being developed. There is a request that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee consider being a signatory of the finalised Charter on behalf of the City of London Corporation. A similar letter has been sent to all London local authorities.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:-

1. support the development of a Women’s Night Safety Charter in principle and agree the draft response attached as an appendix. If agreed, it be noted that City of London Corporation and City of London Police officers will work to support the development and implementation of this charter; and
2. the Town Clerk be authorised to approve the final wording of the Charter prior to being signed, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Committee.

Main Report

Background

1. Amy Lamé, The Mayor of London’s Night Czar wrote to the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee on 18 December 2017 seeking support for a Women’s Night Safety Charter which is currently being developed.
2. There is a request that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee consider being a signatory of the finalised Charter. A similar letter has been sent to all London local authorities.
3. Feedback has been requested by 19 January 2018 and, if Members are content, officers will provide detailed input and liaise with GLA counterparts. This will

include ensuring appropriate reference to the work of the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police.

4. The general principles outlined in the draft charter are of a nature which we would consider the City of London to be generally happy to support. These are grouped under four headings:-

Reporting

- The GLA and MOPAC will continue to coordinate prominent, cross-departmental GLA campaigns across London to keep women safe at night that discourage harassment and encourage reporting.
- For all sectors to identify and encourage champions across the industry within businesses, local authorities and community groups that proactively promote women's safety at night and support women to report.

Response

- For the licensed premises industry to have appropriately trained staff, who are proactive and vigilant around women's safety at night. This includes a duty to capture information and report to the police where appropriate.
- For every woman to feel believed when coming forward and for referrals to the VCS or other relevant support agencies to always be made where appropriate.

Responsibility

- For London to promote campaigns that target and educate perpetrators to change behaviours, highlight examples of good practice and to encourage reporting, including bystander and third party.
- For the GLA and MOPAC to work with the industry champions to build an atmosphere of transparency and safety for women who work at night

Redesign

- The 'Last Mile Home' principle. To empower women with the correct safety information and clear guidance to confidently use all public spaces
- Ensure that planning and the built environment factor in and support women's safety at night, recognising good practice and existing campaigns across London and broaden them to cover all public spaces.

5. We suggest that the attached draft letter be agreed and sent and that City of London officials then liaise with GLA counterparts in terms of any required additional detail. The City of London Corporation and City of London Police have both been active in seeking to increase the safety of women and girls. Given the City's role as a major centre of employment where many often work at night and as a popular destination for socialising we have considerable experience to contribute as well as a clear interest in supporting this work.
6. Concurrently the Mayor of London's Night Time Commissioner is also consulting on more general aspects of London's Night Time Economy. The response from the City of London is being co-ordinated within Remembrancers Department , the deadline for which is 2 February 2018.

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Draft letter

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Thank you for your letter of 18 December 2017 seeking support for the Women's Night Safety Charter.

The City of London fully recognises the importance of working to ensure that all Londoners feel able to travel in safety and confidence and the particular issues women face. As a major centre of employment, where many work late and at night, as well as being a popular destination for socialising and visiting the City is keen to support the ambitions of the Women's Night Safety Charter. Much of the activity you are seeking to promote is reflected in the work undertaken by the City of London Corporation and the City of London Police, for example around licensed premises and supporting reporting.

I have asked our officers to liaise directly with your office and note the deadline of 19 January.

We look forward to working with you and the Mayor's Office on this important topic and supporting this work going forward.

Catherine McGuinness

Chairman
Policy and Resources Committee
City of London Corporation